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Director, FBI

January 20, 1954

SAC, New Orleans (100-15329)

HAROLD PATCH
SM - C

Reference is made to New York letter to Bureau dated December 28, 1953, of which a copy was furnished to the New Orleans Office requesting that ELIZABETH BENTLEY be interviewed regarding information on the above-captioned individual.

On January 7, 1954, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, by SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT at which time she advised that the individual in her book, "Out of Bondage," whom she called HAROLD PATCH is identified as HAROLD GREENWALD. She advised that this individual was connected with the Communist Party headquarters on Twelfth Street in New York City, and was a member of that organization. She related that she believed he attended City College in New York and resided with his father, whose first name she did not recall, in Washington Heights, New York City. She related that the father of HAROLD GREENWALD ran on the Socialist ticket for a public office in New York City; she did not recall the date and could not recall the office for which he ran.

Miss BENTLEY advised that GREENWALD used the name HAROLD PATCH in writing articles and also worked under this name. She advised that GREENWALD was either the editor or associate editor of the magazine, "Fight," the official publication of the American League Against War and Fascism. She advised that he was writing for this magazine in 1935 and 1936.

Miss BENTLEY advised that to the best of her knowledge, GREENWALD resided on West 28th Street in 1936; that he and GEORGE LOH lived in an apartment together at the 28th Street address. She added that about 1935 or 1936 GREENWALD was also on the Emergency Home Relief in New York City.

Miss BENTLEY informed that the last she saw of GREENWALD was about 1938 at which time he was still connected with the American League Against War and Fascism.

In regard to his activities, Miss BENTLEY stated that she and GREENWALD signed HAYDEN S'ARS' application to become a member of the Communist Party. She advised that GREENWALD was an open Communist and was active in furthering the cause of the Communist Party.

Miss BENTLEY advised that other than the above, she knows nothing concerning this individual. RUC.

REGISTERED

CC: 2-New York (1-100-117153; 1-65-14603) (REG.)

JBI:dc

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ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Director, FBI (100-56026)

1/27/54

SAC, New York (100-7976)

PAULINE ROSEN, was: Pauline Royce, Pauline Rogers,
IS - C

Rebulet-tel dated 10/26/53, in case entitled, "HARRY
DEXTER WHITE, ESPIONAGE - R", instructing that ELIZABETH
BENTLEY'S book "Out Of Bondage" be reviewed.

A review of instant book reflects the following
information concerning subject.

Between July 1934 and the Spring of 1935, **BENTLEY**
met **PAULINE ROGERS**, Executive Secretary of the American
League Against War and Fascism in the office of this organization,
which was located on the third floor of a loft building on
Fourth Avenue in New York City. **BENTLEY** had very little
contact with **ROGERS**, but recalled that **ROGERS** had congratulated
her when she announced that she had joined the CP.

In the Spring of 1935 **BENTLEY** was approached by **PAULINE
ROGERS** who wanted to know if **BENTLEY** was still interested in
the problem of combating Italian Fascist propaganda. **ROGERS**
said she had a friend who needed help. When **BENTLEY** replied
she would help, **ROGERS** replied that **BENTLEY** must never mention
this to anyone, even in the Party. **PAULINE ROGERS** then introduced
BENTLEY to a Mrs. **JULIET GLAZER**, who is also known as **JULIET POYNTZ**.
After **BENTLEY** had turned down an offer of Mrs. **GLAZER** to work
for her, Mrs. **GLAZER** and **PAULINE ROGERS** came to **BENTLEY'S**
apartment one night and Mrs. **GLAZER** said, "I brought **PAULINE
ROGERS** here to guarantee my bona fides". Instant book reflects
that Mrs. **GLAZER** then launched into a vituperative diatribe
against **BENTLEY**. When Mrs. **GLAZER** had finished, **BENTLEY** told
her to get out and she left with **PAULINE ROGERS**.

The foregoing information concerning subject **ROGERS**,
furnished by **ELIZABETH BENTLEY**, in substance has previously
been furnished to the Bureau.

New Orleans is requested to contact **ELIZABETH BENTLEY**
and ascertain if she could elaborate and furnish any additional
information on the relationship and activities of **PAULINE ROGERS**
with Mrs. **JULIET GLAZER**, also known as **JULIET POYNTZ**.

- 1 - New Orleans (100-ELIZABETH BENTLEY)
- 1 - Bufile 134-435
- 1 - NY 65-14603

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53 FEB 12 1954

JGG:ITM

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16 FEB 1 1954

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

January 28, 1954

SAC, WFO (100-1171)

ef
MARGARET LEWIS, nee
Margaret Cummings, was.,
Mrs. Frank Lewis,
Margaret Hinckley,
Mrs. William Wheeler Hinckley,
"Meg"
SM - C
(Origin - WFO)

Re Baltimore letter, December 24, 1953, captioned as above,
enclosing a photostatic copy of New York letter, undated, but entitled
WILLIAM WHEELER HINCKLEY and MARGARET (CUMMINGS) HINCKLEY, Security
Matter - C, requesting that the information furnished by ELIZABETH
BENTLEY concerning the HINCKLEYS be compared with the information
concerning them which appears in BENTLEY's book "Out of Bondage"
and reviewed to insure that there is no other information (contained
in the book) which expands upon or differs with data which she has
furnished the Bureau.

Referenced Baltimore letter stated that WFO is office of
origin in captioned subject and requests that it handle the New York
lead concerning MARGARET HINCKLEY.

A review of the information in the files of WFO submitted
by BENTLEY concerning MARGARET HINCKLEY together with a review of
the testimony by BENTLEY before the HCUA (Public Hearings) fails to
reflect any material expansion or difference from the information
contained in her book concerning MARGARET HINCKLEY.

Mr. RAY NIXON, Director of Research, HCUA, advised
January 25, 1954, that a review of said Committee Hearings (Executive
Session) fails to reflect any testimony by BENTLEY concerning MARGARET
HINCKLEY, nee MARGARET CUMMINGS, aka., Mrs. WILLIAM WHEELER HINCKLEY.

RFB/mmd

2-CC-BALTIMORE (100-2034) (100-1811) -- REGISTERED MAIL
2-CC-NEW YORK (65-14603) (100-99311) -- REGISTERED MAIL

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INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Director, FBI (65-134436; 1-65-56402)

January 29, 1954

SAC, New Orleans (134-89)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to the letters from New York to Bureau dated December 17, 1953, and December 22, 1953.

Referenced letters, of which New Orleans received copies, requested that ELIZABETH BENTLEY be interviewed to identify certain individuals mentioned in her book, "Out of Bondage," who were not mentioned in her signed statement furnished to the New York Office in November, 1945.

On January 7, 1954, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, by SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT at which time information contained in the two referenced letters was discussed with her.

In regard to the last paragraph of Page 1 of letter dated December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY identified EDWIN as HAYDEN SEARS, who was at that time a student at the Union Theological Seminary. She stated that she believed he later became an ordained minister but has not heard from him since 1936. She advised that SEARS became a member of the Communist Party in New York as she and HAROLD ORKENWALD, who is identified as HAROLD PATCH in her book, signed the application for SEARS for him to become a member of the Communist Party. She advised that she knew nothing more concerning the activities of this individual.

Miss BENTLEY identified HARRY SCHULER (first paragraph, second page, of letter dated December 17, 1953) also as being HAYDEN SEARS.

On Page 1, Paragraph 4, Miss BENTLEY identified HAROLD PATCH, not ARNOLD PATCH as indicated in referenced letter, as being HAROLD GREENWALD. Information regarding this individual has been reported in the HAROLD PATCH case.

On Page 2, Paragraph 2, of letter dated December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY advised that she was not able to recall anything further concerning either of these individuals except that she did recall that one of them was a man of about forty years of age who had returned from Japan and was taking a refresher course at the Union Theological Seminary. She stated that she only met this individual on one occasion for a short period of time and knew nothing more concerning him. However, during this meeting, he did remark that the Communist Party was illegal in Japan. Miss BENTLEY advised that she met this individual through HAYDEN SEARS.

REGISTERED
CC: 2-New York (65-146033) (REGISTERED)

JEB:mc

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INITIALS TO ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-56402-4067

Director, FBI (65-134436; 1-65-56402)
NO 134-89

January 29, 1954

Regarding Paragraph 6, Page 2, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY advised that JACOB GOLOS on one occasion had mentioned to her whom this individual was; that she did not recall his identity but believed that he was working at that time in the Transport Division of Amtorg and lived some place in the Bronx. She advised that she could not recall his name or anything more concerning this individual. She advised that she faintly recalls that possibly this individual may have been one JACOB RIZAK, who was a member of the Communist Party in New York City. She could furnish no further information concerning his activities but advised that LOUIS BUDENZ possibly could furnish considerable information regarding this individual.

Regarding Paragraph 7, Page 2, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY advised that the true identity of Comrade "G" was not known to her; however, she believed that this individual was a member of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party but was not a top functionary. She advised that she knew nothing further concerning this person.

Regarding Paragraph 8, Page 2, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY identified Comrade "H" as LILLIAN HARRISON. She advised that the only thing she recalls about LILLIAN HARRISON is that she was a supervisor at the Emergency Home Relief and it was her impression that HARRISON was a member of the Communist Party for a while in New York City. Miss BENTLEY advised that she met LILLIAN HARRISON while she, BENTLEY, was also employed for a short time with the Emergency Home Relief.

Miss BENTLEY advised that LILLIAN HARRISON was not to her knowledge connected with espionage activities and that she has not seen HARRISON since approximately July, 1935, and has not heard of her since.

Miss BENTLEY explained that while she was employed by the Emergency Home Relief, she was fingerprinted, and commented that LILLIAN HARRISON was also fingerprinted and that the Bureau would probably have these prints on file.

Regarding Paragraph 2, Page 3, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY identified Comrade LAND as MARK GRAUBARD who is now connected with the University of Minnesota with whom the Bureau is well acquainted.

Regarding Paragraph 3, Page 3, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY stated that the term "NYANYA" is a term used by the Russian children for their nurse. She stated that this individual, whom she referred to as "NYANYA," was a housekeeper or nurse for EARL BROWDER; that she believed that this individual was a Russian citizen as she spoke

Director, FBI (65-134436; 1- 65-56402)
NY 134-89

January 29, 1954

no English and that she possibly came over to the United States when Mrs. EARL BROWDER came here. She advised that "MIANIA" had been with the BROWDERS for a number of years and that she was an elderly woman. She advised that she could not furnish any more information concerning this individual.

Regarding Paragraph h, Page 3, letter of December 17, 1953, Miss BENTLEY has identified EDITH as EDITH VILENTZ, correct name EDITH VILENCHIK, who was a Ukrainian employed as a typist in World Tourists in 1942. Miss BENTLEY advised that, as she recalls, this individual was a Communist sympathizer but does not know whether or not she was a member of the Party. She stated that she did not know what became of this individual and that EDITH, to her knowledge, was not engaged in espionage activities.

Re New York letter dated December 22, 1953, when Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed on January 7 and January 12, 1954, she advised that the New York Daily Mirror sent a representative down to Grand Coteau, Louisiana, to obtain information from her in order to write the articles which appeared in the Daily Mirror in December, 1953. She stated that she gave the information to the representative of the Daily Mirror and that he wrote the articles himself. She particularly referred to the article which appeared in the Daily Mirror on December 15, 1953, wherein she was quoted as saying information had been received that the American government had broken a Soviet code. She stated that this is a misstatement and should have been that the information received was that the Americans were on the verge of breaking a Soviet code.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she did not review the articles prior to the time that they were published but after reading them realized that information furnished was highly dramatized and in some instances was almost removed from the true facts which she gave to the paper.

In regard to New York letter to Bureau dated December 22, 1953, Miss BENTLEY was again interviewed on January 26, 1954, by SA JOHN E. HONEYCUTT, and advised that it was either JACOB GOLOS or unknown subject BILL who requested information concerning WILLIAM BATT who was at that time with the War Production Board. She added that as long as BATT was connected with the War Production Board her superiors were constantly requesting her to obtain additional information concerning him and his attitude toward the Communist Party. She added that, according to information received, BATT'S attitude toward the Party shifted from time to time and the Communists were never satisfied with the information they received regarding his attitude.

Director, FBI (65-13436; 1-65-56102)
NO 134-89

January 29, 1954

Miss BENTLEY advised that the information she received regarding WILLIAM BATT came from the SILVERMASTER group and from WILLIAM REMINGTON and that possibly the VICTOR PERLO group furnished some information concerning BATT but she was not sure about this last group.

In regard to HENRY MOROANTHEAU and HARRY DEXTER WHITE, Miss BENTLEY advised that the information concerning these individuals came from the SILVERMASTERS who, in all probability, received their information from LUDWIG ULLMAN who was at that time connected with the Treasury Department. Miss BENTLEY advised that she herself never contacted WHITE or Mr. MOROANTHEAU.

Director, FBI (100-39962)

1/29/54

SAC, New York (100-3856)

MICHAEL NICHOLAS ENDELMAN, was
ESPIONAGE - R
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Rebuairtel 10/26/53 in case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE,
ESPIONAGE - R".

References pertaining to the subject that appeared in
ELIZABETH-BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" have been compared
with the information ELIZABETH BENTLEY furnished in her signed
statement dated 11/30/45.

This comparison reflects that the material in the
book does not materially add to or differ from information which
Miss BENTLEY has previously furnished.

1 - Bufile 134-435
1 - NY 65-14303

134-435-✓
NOT RECORDED

LML:MG

REC 9 1954

STANDARD FORM NO. 64
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. L. Belmont

DATE: January 6,
1954

FROM : W. A. Branigan *WAB*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson -
Ladd -
Nichols -
Belmont -
Clegg -
Glavin -
Harbo -
Rosen -
Tracy -
Gearty -
Mohr -
Winterrowd -
Tele. Room -
Holloman -
 Sizoo -
Miss Gandy -

SYNOPSIS:

Pursuant to the Bureau's instructions, the New York office has submitted an analysis of six articles written by Bentley which appeared in the "New York Daily Mirror" from December 13 to December 18, 1953. Practically all the information in the articles appears in Bentley's book "Out of Bondage" with a "dressing up" of some of the material.

Bentley in the articles traces her involvement in the espionage network, names the principal persons who were involved, stresses particularly the activities of Harry Dexter White, shows the importance of the over-all data the network produced for the Soviets and then traces her ultimate break from the espionage apparatus.

Bentley's articles make considerable favorable mention of the FBI, and she closes her last article by indicating persons in the network should have no fear of making disclosure, and "The FBI is completely capable of evaluating the sincerity of an ex-Communist, and its verdict can be relied upon." The New York office has been instructed to channelize all pertinent information in these articles to the appropriate files. The New York office has also set out leads for the New Orleans office to ask Bentley about several passages in the articles where it appears that she has expanded upon information in her book and on information previously furnished to our agents.

ACTION:

None. The foregoing is for your information.

RECORDED 24

134-435-97

134-435

RJL:ele

DETAILS:

The New York office was instructed by the Bureau's air-tel of December 10, 1953, to secure copies of the articles written by Elizabeth Bentley in the "New York Mirror" starting on December 13, 1953. They were instructed to forward these articles with an analysis to the Bureau and where necessary to set forth leads for the New Orleans office to interview Bentley concerning data appearing in the articles. They were also instructed to channelize information in the articles to the pertinent files on persons named by Bentley.

The articles appeared in the "New York Daily Mirror" in six issues starting on December 13, 1953, and ending on December 18, 1953. The analysis submitted by the New York office and the study here at the Bureau reflects that practically all information in the articles appears in Bentley's book "Out of Bondage" with the "dressing up" of some of the material. Bentley in substance in the articles traces her own involvement in the network, describes the roles played by various persons involved and shows the importance of the data which the network was producing for the Soviets. Probably because of the recent publicity concerning Harry Dexter White, she devotes considerable space to his activities. Her last article shows her ultimate break with the espionage network and her coming to the FBI with her information.

In the article of December 13, 1953, Bentley relates that White furnished information to the network, that Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau was disgruntled with the reception Moscow was giving American lend-lease effort, and White suggested that something be done in order to keep Morgenthau from becoming anti-Soviet. She said as a result of passing this information through to the Soviet Intelligence headquarters in Moscow, Stalin probably paid tribute to US productivity and the importance of the lend-lease program. This information is basically the same as that furnished previously by Bentley to Bureau agents. In the article of December 14, 1953, Bentley repeats information which she has previously furnished to the Bureau and to Congressional committees which leads her to believe that there was at least one other spy ring operating in Washington which she knew nothing about and possibly still another group. We have previously questioned Bentley on this and have secured all details she has which do not assist us in identifying such networks. In the article of December 15, 1953, Bentley plays up the role played by Lauchlin Currie, an administrative assistant to President Roosevelt, who assisted Nathan Gregory Silvermaster when he was under investigation pursuant to the Hatch Act. It appears in this instance that Bentley has gone beyond knowledge known to her personally and has drawn

upon data developed in Congressional hearings. The New York office states they are setting out a lead for the New Orleans office to ask Bentley about this matter in connection with the Currie investigation. In the article of December 17, 1953, Bentley shows how deeply infiltrated was the Office of Strategic Services by the Soviets. She also shows how the Soviets wanted all types of information even concerning the political attitude of various persons such as William Batt of the War Production Board whose name came up time and again. In this instance while Bentley has furnished similar information in the past, she did not say that a request was received concerning Batt on a number of occasions, and accordingly, the New Orleans office has a lead to ask Bentley concerning this matter. Throughout the articles Bentley makes numerous references to the FBI, and in no instance is she critical, and several of the references are very favorable. In closing her last article she indicates that persons who were involved in the network could restore themselves by making disclosures, and she states, "The FBI is completely capable of evaluating the sincerity of an ex-Communist, and its verdict can be relied upon."

JAN 28 1954

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLEANS 1-28-54

10-42AM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, HOUSTON

...URGENT...

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION. BENTLEY ADVISES THAT THROUGH FRANK J. KELLY, PROMOTER, LAKE CHARLES, LA., SHE IS ENGAGED FOR A NUMBER OF PAID LECTURES IN THE GALVESTON, PORT ARTHUR AND ORANGE, TEXAS AREA. ON JANUARY TWENTYFOUR LAST SHE HAD A CONVERSATION WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN WHOM SHE MET AT ONE OF HER PUBLIC APPEARANCES, WHO ADVISED AGAINST HER MAKING ANY SPEECHES IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED AREA DUE TO A NUMBER OF LABOR UNION STRIKES IN THE AREA. BENTLEY STATED HER SPEECHES IN THE PAST HAVE BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY LABOR UNIONS OTHER THAN THOSE COMMUNIST DOMINATED. SHE ADVISED THAT THE TEND OF CONVERSATION OF THE PERSON WHO ADVISED AGAINST HER MAKING SPEECHES IN THE PORT ARTHUR AREA INDICATED HE IS POSSIBLY CONNECTED WITH THE DISTRIBUTORS, PROCESSORS, AND OFFICE WORKERS UNION WHICH SHE STATES IS COMMUNIST CONTROLLED. SHE ADVISED THAT BY FEBRUARY ONE NEXT SHE IS TO ACCEPT OR REJECT A SPEECH SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBI ORANGE, TEXAS, SCHEDULED ON FEBRUARY NINETEEN NEXT, BUT DOES NOT WISH TO APPEAR IN LOCALITY WHERE LABOR STRIFE INVOLVING COMMUNIST DOMINATED UNION IS PRESENT. HOUSTON WILL ADVISE IMMEDIATELY IF INFO IS AVAILABLE THAT OFFICE TO INDICATE ANY COMMUNIST CONTROLLED UNION PRESENTLY ACTIVE IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED AREA. BUREAU WILL ADVISE BY FEBRUARY FIRST WHETHER THIS INFO CAN BE FURNISHED TO BENTLEY.

FAISST

END

HO OK FBI HO KH

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Nichols

URGENT
TELETYPE

JANUARY 29, 1954

RECORDED-24

SAC, NEW ORLEANS

134-435-99

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

REURTEL JANUARY TWENTYEIGHT INSTANT. BENTLEY IS NOT TO
BE GIVEN ANY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REGARDING ANY COMMUNIST
CONTROLLED UNION, IF PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE,
SHE MAY BE ADVISED OF SUBSTANCE. BENTLEY SHOULD BE MADE TO
CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THE DECISION TO MAKE ANY SPEECH IS
SOLELY HER RESPONSIBILITY AND THE BUREAU WILL NOT ADVISE FOR
OR AGAINST ANY SPEECH ON HER PART.

HOOVER

G.I.R-10

BJL:awn

67 FEB 2 1954

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F.B.I.

RECEIVED READING ROOM
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gearty
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room

999
53 MAR 3 1954
TELETYPE

REC'D 2-3-54
REC'D 2-3-54

WAB 2-3-54

FBI WASH DC 1-29-54 4-36 PM VH

SAC NEW ORLEANS URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION. REURTEL
JANUARY TWENTYEIGHT INSTANT. BENTLEY IS NOT TO BE GIVEN ANY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REGARDING ANY COMMUNIST CONTROLLED UNION, IF PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE, SHE MAY BE ADVISED OF SUBSTANCE. BENTLEY SHOULD BE MADE TO CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THE DECISION TO MAKE ANY SPEECH IS SOLELY HER RESPONSIBILITY AND THE BUREAU WILL NOT ADVISE FOR OR AGAINST ANY SPEECH ON HER PART.

HOOVER

END

CC FBI HC BC

TU DISC V

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD

DATE: February 4,
1954

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Tolson -
Ladd -
Nichols -
Belmont -
Clegg -
Glavin -
Harbo -
Rosen -
Tracy -
Gearty -
Mohr -
Winterrowd -
Tele. Room -
Holloman -
 Sizoo -
Miss Gandy

The New Orleans Office in a teletype dated 2-2-54 has advised that Miss Bentley was served with a subpoena to give a deposition in the libel suit of William Henry Taylor vs. The Washington Daily News, a civil action. Bentley told our New Orleans Office that she believed she was being subpoenaed to give deposition regarding testimony she previously furnished to Congressional committees. She stated she did not intend to answer the subpoena and was willing to go to jail rather than appear. She stated that if she was forced to be a witness, she would be hostile to both parties. According to Bentley, her appearance would establish a precedent which would require her presence in other matters of a similar nature and this would cause her to lose her job and eliminate her only real source of income. Bentley informed she had no money to employ an attorney and requested the Bureau to advise her as to her legal rights. With regard to this the Director indicated that we should inform her that it would not be possible for the Bureau to furnish her with legal advice but that a decision as to whether she is to comply with the subpoena is a personal one and she should be guided by her own conclusions after talking with Rejean before whom she is to give a deposition.

Since Elizabeth Bentley has been an important Government witness in previous Federal criminal actions and particularly because she is a potential witness in any future actions, namely the prosecution of the Silvermaster case or any of the subjects in it, this matter was called to the attention of Mr. William Foley of the Criminal Division. Foley suggested that under the circumstances it would not be desirable to alienate Elizabeth Bentley in any way and he stated he desired to discuss further in the Department the feasibility of having a Departmental representative contact her with regard to this present subpoena. Thereafter Foley advised that he had discussed this matter in the Department and he stated they had come to the conclusion there was nothing that could be done for Miss Bentley. Foley stated that it would appear Bentley was a necessary witness in a civil suit and had been properly served. Under the circumstances, according to Foley, she would have to appear as would any other witness under similar circumstances.

ACTION: 7/1

134-435-100

FEB 5 1954

ESP SEC

53 MAR

Our New Orleans Office has been properly instructed in line with the Director's suggestion. This is submitted for your information.

WAB:GAS

134-435

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 29 1954

TELETYPE

FBI HOUSTON

1-29-54

6-10 PM CST

SRF

DIRECTOR AND SAC NEW ORLEANS

BRADY

BAUMGARDNER

URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, C. S. RE N. O. TEL 1-28-54

ON NOV. FOURTEEN

LAST DPOWA LOCAL EIGHTYFIVE, PT. ARTHUR, TEX, UNDER SUPERVISION OF
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT ARTHUR OSMAN STRUCK AT TWENTYONE PT. ARTHUR
RETAIL OUTLETS AND HOTELS. SUBSEQUENT PRESSURE BY GOVERNOR AND AG OF
TEXAS RESULTED IN LOCAL 85 BEING COMPLETELY DISASSOCIATED WITH DPOWA
AND DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO WALTER REUTHER, PRES. CIO. INVESTIGATION
RE OFFICERS LOCAL 85 FAILED TO DISCLOSE PREVIOUS SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES.
AG OF TEXAS CANCELLED ALL DPOWA ORGANIZOR PERMITS DEC. THIRTY, FIFTY
THREE. NO FURTHER EVIDENCE CP DOMINATED UNION ACTIVITY PT. ARTHUR,
ORANGE OR GALVESTON AREAS.

SANTOIANA

END ACK IN ORDER

WA M 7-13 PM OK FBI WA EAB RECORDED - 87

NO OK FBI NO AE

DISC

134-435-101

NOV 30 1954

RECEIVED NOV 30 1954

5011 173

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 2 1954

TELETYPE

Elizabeth Bentley

FBI NEW ORLEANS 2-2-54 7-29 PM CST

DIRECTOR, FBI U R G E N T *Wm J. [unclear]*

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, AKA., INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND, WASHINGTON, D. C., LEON-IR. ON FEB. SECOND, FIFTY-FOUR, MISS ELIZABETH BENTLEY, WHO IS PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AS INSTRUCTOR AT SACRED HEART COLLEGE, GRAND COTEAU, LA., TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA JOHN E. HONEYCUTT AND ADVISED AS FOLLOWS, A US DEPUTY MARSHAL FROM WESTERN DISTRICT OF LA. SERVED HER WITH A FEDERAL SUBPOENA TO APPEAR IN OFFICE OF HOWARD B. DEJEAN, ATTORNEY OPELOUSAS, LA., FEB. EIGHT, FIFTYFOUR, TO GIVE DEPOSITION IN LIBEL SUIT OF WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR VS. WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS, BEARING CIVIL ACTION NUMBER FIVE THREE NINE FOUR DASH FIVE THREE. THE SUBPOENA REPORTEDLY STATES THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN ATTORNEYS FOR TAYLOR AND ATTORNEYS FOR DAILY NEWS FOR HER TO APPEAR IN OPELOUSAS ON FEB. EIGHT, FIFTYFOUR FOR PURPOSE OF GIVING DEPOSITION. SHE CLAIMS SHE NEVER GAVE EITHER THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS OR TAYLOR ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THIS MATTER. ALSO CLAIMS ONLY INFORMATION SHE EVER FURNISHED RE TAYLOR WAS GIVEN TO BUREAU AGENTS AND CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES. SHE BELIEVES THEY ARE MOST PROBABLY SUBPOENAING HER TO GIVE DEPOSITION BY TESTIMONY SHE PREVIOUSLY GAVE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES. STATES SHE DOES NOT INTEND TO APPEAR IN RESPONSE TO SUBPOENA AND WILL GO TO JAIL BEFORE SHE APPEARS. REGARDING POSSIBLE FORCED APPEARANCE SHE STATED SHE WILL END PAGE ONE

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-348-548

100-348-548

100-348-548

PAGE TWO

IF I HAVE TO APPEAR, I WILL BE A HOSTILE WITNESS FOR BOTH SIDES.
END QUOTE. STATES SHE HAS CLASSES AT SACRED HEART COLLEGE ON MONDAY,
FEB. EIGHT WHICH PRECLUDE HER APPEARANCE. CLAIMS SHE DOES NOT WISH TO
APPEAR BECAUSE IF SHE DOES SO IT WOULD ESTABLISH DANGEROUS PRECEDENT
AND REQUIRE OTHER APPEARANCES OF SIMILAR NATURE WHICH WOULD CAUSE
HER TO LOSE HER JOB AND ELIMINATE HER ONLY REAL SOURCE OF INCOME.
STATES SHE DOES NOT HAVE MONEY TO EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. SHE WANTS THE
BUREAU TO ADVISE HER AS TO WHAT HER LEGAL RIGHTS ARE. SHE SPECIFICALLY
WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER SHE CAN BE FORCED TO TESTIFY AND WHAT ACTION
COULD BE TAKEN AGAINST HER IF SHE DOES NOT TESTIFY. SA HONEYCUTT
STATED THAT HE COULD NOT ADVISE HER IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER CONCERNING
THIS MATTER, BUT IN RESPONSE TO HER SPECIFIC REQUEST WOULD CONTACT
THE BUREAU, RECOMMEND BUREAU GRANT AUTHORITY FOR NEW ORLEANS TO FIRST
TACTFULLY SUGGEST TO MISS BENTLEY THAT SHE CONTACT ATTORNEY DEJEAN
CONCERNING HER STATUS WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBPOENA AND SECONDLY INFORM
MISS BENTLEY IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR BUREAU TO FURNISH HER WITH
LEGAL ADVICE BUT THAT DECISION AS TO WHETHER TO COMPLY WITH SUBPOENA
IS A PERSONAL ONE, AND SHE SHOULD BE GUIDED BY HER OWN CONCLUSIONS
AFTER TALKING TO DEJEAN.

FAISST

CORRECTIONS PAGE ONE LINE TWO LAST WORD SHOULD BE "BENTLEY"

LINE THREE WORD NINE SHOULD BE "HEART"

END AND ACK PLS

HOLD PLS

8-29XXX 8-39 PM OK FBI WA JC

*I would only stand
do the account. Root
H.*

1134-435-✓

NOT RECORDED

162 FEB 10 1954

TELETYPE

FEBRUARY 3, 1954

URGENT

SAC, NEW ORLEANS

134-435-✓

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, AKA QUOTE BILL UNQUOTE, INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY FUND, WASHINGTON, D. C., LOYALTY OF EMPLOYEES OF
THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS -
IR. REURTEL FEBRUARY TWO LAST. ~~REURTEL FEBRUARY TWO LAST.~~
~~REURTEL FEBRUARY TWO LAST.~~ YOU SHOULD RECONTACT BENTLEY AND
ADVISE IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR BUREAU TO FURNISH HER
WITH LEGAL ADVICE. DECISION TO COMPLY WITH SUBPOENA IS
A PERSONAL ONE AND SHE SHOULD BE GUIDED BY HER OWN CONCLUSIONS.
~~AFTER TALKING TO ATTORNEY SEIDEN,~~

HOOVER

138-348

cc - 134-435

DUPLICATE YELLOW
TRANSMITTED

DUPLICATE YELLOW
TRANSMITTED

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 138-348-111

59 FEB 12 1954

53 MAR 3 1954 299

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-14778)

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (100-15346)

SUBJECT: WELDWEL WARSZOWER, wa:
William Weiner, et al
IS-C

DATE: 2/5/54

Reference is made to the letter from the New York Office to the Director dated January 12, 1954, a copy of which was furnished this office requesting an interview with Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY regarding all information which she has concerning subject WARSZOWER.

On January 26, 1954, Miss BENTLEY was interviewed at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, and she advised that the only contacts she had with WARSZOWER were when she was working with WORLD TOURIST, INC. She advised that from her contacts with him at this time she determined that WARSZOWER was Financial Secretary of the Communist Party in New York for a while but was not able to furnish the date. She stated that he also held some title, which she could not describe, in the IWO, but was unable to furnish the date concerning this either. She stated that he was connected with New Century Publishers which was a Communist publishing house, but that she did not know his duties in connection with this enterprise. She stated that it was her impression that he was also a member of the Central Committee for a short time but was not able to give definite information regarding this.

Miss BENTLEY advised that JACOB GOLOS had considerable dealings with WEINER and that after GOLOS died, she approached WEINER on the idea of getting someone else to run WORLD TOURIST, INC., as she wanted to get out of the organization. She advised that she had several discussions of this matter with WEINER and that finally WEINER agreed to get someone else to run WORLD TOURIST, INC., and that in April of 1945 WEINER send LOUIS BERDENSKY over to take over the operation of WORLD TOURIST, INC.

Miss BENTLEY advised that the above are her relations and association with WEINER and any discrepancies which appear from the above facts and those recorded in her book are due to the fact that in her book it was necessary for her to add human interest and reader appeal to a large number of incidents.

RUC.

JBH:eo

cc: 2 - NEW YORK (100-7577)
(65-14603) (REGISTERED MAIL)

REGISTERED MAIL

58 FEB 10 1954

134-435- ✓
FEB 9 1954

Director, FBI (65-58688)

2/5/54

SAC, New York (100-95066)

ROSE ARENAL
SM-C

ReBuairtel 10/26/53, in the case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE; ESPIONAGE - R", NYlet to Bureau, 12/29/53, and New Orleans letter to Bureau, 1/19/54, both captioned as above.

Reairtel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure that there is no other information (contained in the book) which expands upon or differs with data which she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to appropriate individual files.

Re New Orleans let reflects that Miss BENTLEY'S signed statement contains all of the essential facts and any deviation from those facts contained in her signed statement is due to the dramatization of the material in her book.

In view of the fact that the only lead in captioned matter was to reconcile the differences appearing in BENTLEY'S signed statement dated 11/30/45 and her book "Out of Bondage" this lead has been covered. This case is being closed in the NYO UACB.

- ① - Bufile 134-435
- 1 - NY 65-14603

TJC:CMW

299
MAR 3 1954

52 FEB 10 1954

134-435- ✓
NOT RECORDED
153 FEB 9 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-14303)

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (65-1950)

SUBJECT: MAURICE HYMAN HALPERIN
ESPIONAGE - R
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

DATE: 2/5/54

Reference is made to the letter from Boston to the Director dated January 8, 1954, copy to New Orleans, requesting an interview with Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY regarding her meeting with HALPERIN, which meeting is recorded in her book entitled "OUT OF BONDAGE," pages 263, 264, 265 & 266.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she had previously made arrangements with HALPERIN to meet him on Florida Avenue and another street which she now cannot identify but which is located in the southwest section of Washington, D. C., for the purpose of picking up some material which HALPERIN was to furnish her. She related that when she arrived on the designated spot on Florida Avenue, that she noticed a building which appeared to be a garage and since this was a very cold day, she went inside to get warm and it was at this time that she noticed that the building was filled with steel file cabinets and that there were three individuals dressed in guard uniforms. She stated that at this time she also had with her numerous microfilms of espionage material which the SILVERMASTERS had turned over to her. This was the reason that she was so frightened at this time. She stated that she immediately left this building and went around the corner where she observed HALPERIN waiting for her. She advised that she never told HALPERIN of this incident.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she does not recall the identity of the material which HALPERIN furnished to her on this meeting, and does not recall the identity of the material which the SILVERMASTERS had furnished to her on this contact.

RUC.

JBH:eo

REGISTERED MAIL

cc: 2 - BOSTON (100-25501) (REGISTERED MAIL)
2 - WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE (101-2139) (REGISTERED MAIL)
2 - NEW YORK (65-1564) (REGISTERED MAIL)

173
55 FEB 12 1954

134-435-✓
NOT RECORDED
102 FEB 10 1954

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Director, FBI (65-58688)

2/5/54

SAC, New York (100-95066)

ROSE ARENAL

SM-C

Handwritten: ReBureau
ReBureau 10/26/53, in the case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE; ESPIONAGE - R", NYlet to Bureau, 12/29/53, and New Orleans letter to Bureau, 1/19/54, both captioned as above.

Handwritten: Reairtel
Reairtel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure that there is no other information (contained in the book) which expands upon or differs with data which she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to appropriate individual files.

Re New Orleans let reflects that Miss BENTLEY's signed statement contains all of the essential facts and any deviation from those facts contained in her signed statement is due to the dramatization of the material in her book.

In view of the fact that the only lead in captioned matter was to reconcile the differences appearing in BENTLEY'S signed statement dated 11/30/45 and her book "Out of Bondage" this lead has been covered. This case is being closed in the NYO UACB.

Handwritten: 134-435-
NOTED
172 FEB 23 1954

1 - Bufile 134-435
1 - NY 65-14603

TJC:CMW

Handwritten: 299
53 MAR 3 1954

Handwritten: 60
60 FEB 24 1954

DIRECTOR, FBI (101-4782
134-435)

2/17/54

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-23392)

LINI MOERKERN STORMEN
SECURITY MATTER - C

Los Angeles origin.

Re: Bulet 1/12/54.

New York letter to Bureau 12/29/53, with enclosure.

From a review of the excerpts of ELIZABETH BENTLEY's book, "Out of Bondage", as furnished by the New York office, the Los Angeles office concluded that the narrative in her book concerning STORMEN did not appear to differ materially with the information in the statement made by BENTLEY on 11/30/45 to the Bureau. In referring to her relationship with the subject BENTLEY elaborated upon or furnished additional details in the following instances in her book:

On pages 18 and 20 BENTLEY referred to the subject's direct admission to BENTLEY that she was a member of the American Communist Party and described the subject's detailed explanation of the structure of the Communist Party. In her statement to the Bureau, BENTLEY said she had determined that the subject was a member of the CP but she did not describe by what means she had ascertained this fact.

Page 21 of BENTLEY's book set out the subject's description of the CP as part of a world-wide federation called the Communist International whose headquarters were in Moscow. On pages 22 through 33 BENTLEY described the persistent efforts and persuasive technique applied by the subject in winning her over to the Communist cause. On page 30 BENTLEY disclosed the fact that the subject had sailed with the first medical detachment destined to Spain to fight for the Madrid government in the Spanish Civil War.

None of the above details appeared in BENTLEY's signed statement.

The Los Angeles office has developed no additional information regarding the subject since the submission of the summary report by SA JOHN D. WALLACE, 10/1/52 at Los Angeles. All of the information concerning the subject received by the Los Angeles office subsequent to 10/1/52 has been submitted in report form suitable for dissemination.

The subject joined the CP in 1935 and was an active CP member until at least 1947. In 1949 she belonged to a group whose purpose was to commit sabotage in the United States in event of war with Russia. The subject currently associates with United States and Mexican Communists in the Mexico

INQ/adm
Reg.

FEB 26 1954

134-435
NOT RECORDED
163 FEB 24 1954

ORIGINAL FILED IN

LA 100-21392

City area and may be involved in some way with escape route plans of the CP, USA.

In accordance with the Bureau's request, an FD-122 accompanies this letter with the recommendation that she be included on the Security Index of the Los Angeles office.

The Los Angeles office will, upon receipt of approval from the Bureau, place STOWMEN on the Security Index and close this case administratively.

Director, FBI (65-56402)

3/10/54

SAC, New York (65-14603)

NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R

Rebuair-tel 10/26/53 in the case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE,
ESPIONAGE - R."

Referenced air-tel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY's book
"Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure there is no other information in
the book which expands upon or differs with data which she has furnished
to the Bureau.

To facilitate the comparison of information in the book with
information furnished by Miss BENTLEY in her signed statement of 11/30/45
it was necessary to prepare an index of the statement as it appears in the
report of SA THOMAS G. SPENCER made at NY, 12/5/45.

It is believed that such an index filed with copies of this
report will be useful in facilitating research for information concerning
individuals and incidents mentioned in Miss BENTLEY's statement.

There is being submitted herewith to the Bureau and offices
having copies of this report amended pages 108 to 113 to be inserted in
the report of SA THOMAS G. SPENCER made at NY 12/5/45.

Encs. (5)

- 1 - Bufile 134-435
- 1 - New Haven (Enc. 1)
- 1 - New Orleans (134-89) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - WFO (Encs. 3)
- 1 - NY 134-182

LOG:DC

134-435-✓
NOT RECORDED
177 MAR 18 1954

ORIGINAL FILED IN

50 MAR 24 1954

Director, FBI (39-878)

3/25/54

SAC, New York (100-14205)

IRENE BROWDER, was
SECURITY MATTER - PERJURY

Rebuaair-tel 10/26/53, in case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE, ESPIONAGE - R", instructing that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book, "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure there is no information contained in the book which expands upon or differs with data which she has furnished the Bureau.

On page 185 of her book, Miss BENTLEY describes her first visit to EARL BROWDER, and comments concerning his wife, IRENE BROWDER: "What I did not then know was that RAISSA (IRENE BROWDER) even as far back as the Revolution, had been a powerful figure in the GPU organization in Russia and that she still worked for it. One of her duties was to keep her husband in line and make reports on him. BROWDER had evidently had no choice in his marriage; the powers - that - be in Moscow had issued the orders and he had to follow them".

This information from Miss BENTLEY does not appear in her signed statement nor in instant case file.

Since subject is currently awaiting trial for making false statements in connection with her naturalization, it is requested that the New Orleans Office interview Miss BENTLEY as to any evidentiary basis for the above quoted statement.

①-Bureau (134-435)
2-New Orleans
1-New York (65-14603)
1-New York (100-25693)

134-435-✓
156 MAR 29 1954

GSA:PEH

Director, FBI (39-878)

3/25/54

SAC, New York (100-25692)

EARL RUSSELL BROWDER

IS-C

ReBuairtel 4/26/53 entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE, ESPIONAGE -R," instructing ELIZABETH BENTLEY's book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure that the book contains no information expanding upon or differing with data already furnished the Bureau.

On page 150 of instant book JACOB GOLOS is quoted as follows: "He (EARL BROWDER) realized that GREG (GREGORY SILVERMASTER) would be very useful to us in the future, so he told him to lie low and not join any Communist unit in Washington. -----Moreover, on BROWDER's instructions he's been gathering around him a group of people, some party members, some sympathizers, employed in sensitive jobs in the government where they will be able to collect invaluable information for us."

It appears that no mention previously had been made of such instructions from BROWDER to SILVERMASTER, and it is requested that the New Orleans Office interview Miss BENTLEY to ascertain her full knowledge of this matter.

It is noted also on pages 223, 224 and 225 of her book, Miss BENTLEY relates that following the death of GOLOS she removed \$1200. from the safe of World Tourists, Incorporated, and delivered this sum to EARL BROWDER. On page 93 of her signed statement, Miss BENTLEY estimates this sum as between \$11,000 and \$12,000. It is requested that Miss BENTLEY be asked to clarify this discrepancy.

Miss BENTLEY continues on pages 225 and 226 that following the death of GOLOS, BROWDER told her, "This thing's got to be handled with great care. We can't let GOLOS be too closely tied up with the American Party, it'll wreck us." Since this statement appears to be an admission by BROWDER of his knowledge of the true nature of GOLOS' activities, and since it appears not to have been reported previously, it is requested that Miss BENTLEY be questioned with reference thereto.

- 1-Bureau (134-435)
- 1-New Orleans
- 1-New York (65-14603)

GSA: PAT

134-435-✓
NOT RECORDED
192 MAR 29 1954

40-3913-67
NAL COPY FILED IN

30 APR 5 1954

APRIL 22, 1954

SAC, NEW ORLEANS

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT.

REBUTEL APRIL 19. IMMEDIATELY ADVISE RESULT YOUR CONTACT
WITH JUDGE AND BENTLEY.

HOOVER

184-435

RJL:gks *gks*

A

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Trotter _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED
FBI
APR 23 1954

RECORDED 112

APR 23 1954
132

COMM - FBI

APR 22 1954

MAILED 31

APR 26 1954

184-435-102

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: April 6, 1954

On April 1, 1954, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY advised SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT of this office that she had just received a long distance telephone call from New York City from GUENTHER REINHARDT. She stated that REINHARDT talked for twenty minutes and during the conversation remarked to her that he had been working for the past several months for INS in New York and that he had received no pay for his services during this period. According to Miss BENTLEY, REINHARDT asked her when she was coming to New York, that he desired to see her the next time she was in the vicinity. She also stated that REINHARDT asked her what she knew about the Southern Conference for Human Welfare investigations which had recently been conducted in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she was unable to figure out why REINHARDT would spend twenty minutes talking long distance to her from New York and that she was merely calling this information to the attention of the Bureau.

The above information is being furnished to the Bureau for information purposes.

JBH:dbc

REGISTERED MAIL~~EXP. PROC.~~

RECORDED - 28

134-435-103

20

SAC, New Orleans (134-89)

April 19, 1954

Director, FBI (134-435)

RECORDED - 28

134-435-103

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
FORMER SECURITY INFORMANT

Reurlet dated April 6, 1954, in which you advised that Miss Bentley had received a telephone call from Guenther Reinhardt, who indicated to Miss Bentley that he wished to see her the next time she went to New York.

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(D)

I. R. 1

If the opportunity presents itself, there is no objection to your mentioning to Miss Bentley the necessity to be most cautious in dealing with Reinhardt.

Keep the Bureau advised of any additional contacts which Reinhardt may make with Bentley.

JDD:DE

APR 19 5 05 PM '54

RECEIVED DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
APR 20 1954

COMM E FBI
APR 19 1954
MAILED 28

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

175

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

April 19, 1954

Director, FBI

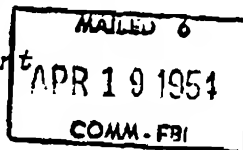
ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Elizabeth T. Bentley, who is teaching at the College of Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, was served with a subpoena on February 2, 1954, to give a deposition in connection with a civil libel suit by William H. Taylor against the Washington Daily News. Bentley did not respond to the subpoena and a second subpoena was issued on April 8, 1954, which Bentley is apparently ignoring. Federal Judge Edwin F. Hunter of the Western District of Louisiana, has indicated he is reluctant to cite Bentley for contempt and will not do so for a 30-day period. G. I. R. - J

I am attaching a copy of a memorandum prepared by Judge Hunter and furnished to Special Agent James W. Hamilton on April 12, 1954. I am also attaching a copy of a letter to Judge Hunter from Howard B. DeJean, Jr., Attorney at Law, Opelousas, Louisiana, dated March 5, 1954, which sets forth some of the background of this matter.

The foregoing is being brought to your attention as of possible interest in connection with any effect this situation might have on the future value of Elizabeth Bentley as a Government witness. We have previously informed Miss Bentley that this is a matter for her own personal decision. Judge Hunter is to be informed that Elizabeth Bentley has been so advised.

Attachment
134-435



RECORDED - 63

RECEIVED READING ROOM

134-435-104

APR 27 1954

APR 21 AM 5:54

RJL:mpp

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Trotter _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

CONFIDENTIAL

58 APR 29 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)

FROM : SAC, New Orleans (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: April 12, 1954

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

On April 12, 1954, the Honorable EDWIN F. HUNTER, Federal Judge, Western District of Louisiana, contacted SA JAMES W. HAMILTON, Resident Agent at Lake Charles, Louisiana, and furnished to him a copy of a letter dated March 5, 1954, to Judge HUNTER from HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., Attorney, Opelousas, Louisiana. Judge HUNTER also furnished a memorandum prepared by him and addressed to SA HAMILTON under date of April 12, 1954. Copies of both of these documents are enclosed. They relate to attempted service of a subpoena on Miss BENTLEY by the U. S. Marshal in connection with a suit involving WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR vs. Washington Daily News (Civil Action 5394-53, District of Columbia).

As noted in the attached documents, Miss BENTLEY claims that the civil suit in question, in which depositions are desired from her by the plaintiff's attorneys, is a Communist plot. She has talked with Judge HUNTER and has indicated to him that the purpose of the suit was to get her to publicly give testimony which she had heretofore given in closed Congressional committee hearings. She indicated to Judge HUNTER that she had no intention of accepting service of a subpoena in this matter. Judge HUNTER has advised that he gained the impression in his conversations with Miss BENTLEY that she was being afforded some kind of protective custody by the FBI, although she did not make any clear-cut or positive statements in this regard. Judge HUNTER has stated that he has informed Attorney DeJEAN of his report of this matter to the FBI and has instructed DeJEAN that no effort should be made to have Miss BENTLEY cited for contempt for a period of thirty days.

Judge HUNTER stated to SA HAMILTON that he was not seeking information from this office concerning parties to the civil suit in question or concerning Miss BENTLEY, but was furnishing his report only for the information of the FBI. He points out in his memorandum of April 12, 1954, however, "It is conceivable that there might be some information this court should have if it is faced with a demand for a contempt." He has stated that he does not anticipate requesting any information from the FBI and that no action was desired by his office with reference to Miss BENTLEY's past or future refusals to accept a subpoena in this matter.

Enclosures (2)
AIRMAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY
HCB:mas

APR 19 1954

RECORDED - 63

INDEXED - 63

134-435-105
10 APR 27 1954

Director, FBI
AMSD

April 14, 1954

RE: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Miss BENTLEY recently contacted SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT, Resident Agent at Lafayette, Louisiana, and discussed this matter with him. She sought advice from SA HONEYCUTT concerning the action she should take and was, of course, advised that he was not in a position to furnish her with such counsel. She said the action on the part of the plaintiff's attorneys in this suit had caused her considerable embarrassment at the school with which she is affiliated and indicated that regardless of the action taken she did not intend to afford the plaintiff's attorneys the right or opportunity to take the deposition requested.

The foregoing is submitted to the Bureau for its information in view of the possibility that Miss BENTLEY may at a later time be cited for contempt for failure to respond to the order of the court. No action will be taken in this matter in the absence of specific instructions from the Bureau.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)
FROM : SAC, New Orleans (134-89)
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: April 14, 1954

On April 12, 1954, the Honorable EDWIN F. HUNTER, Federal Judge, Western District of Louisiana, contacted SA JAMES W. HAMILTON, Resident Agent at Lake Charles, Louisiana, and furnished to him a copy of a letter dated March 5, 1954, to Judge HUNTER from HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., Attorney, Opelousas, Louisiana. Judge HUNTER also furnished a memorandum prepared by him and addressed to SA HAMILTON under date of April 12, 1954. Copies of both of these documents are enclosed. They relate to attempted service of a subpoena on Miss BENTLEY by the U. S. Marshal in connection with a suit involving WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR vs. Washington Daily News (Civil Action 5394-53, District of Columbia).

As noted in the attached documents, Miss BENTLEY claims that the civil suit in question, in which depositions are desired from her by the plaintiff's attorneys, is a Communist plot. She has talked with Judge HUNTER and has indicated to him that the purpose of the suit was to get her to publicly give testimony which she had heretofore given in closed Congressional committee hearings. She indicated to Judge HUNTER that she had no intention of accepting service of a subpoena in this matter. Judge HUNTER has advised that he gained the impression in his conversations with Miss BENTLEY that she was being afforded some kind of protective custody by the FBI, although she did not make any clear-cut or positive statements in this regard. Judge HUNTER has stated that he has informed Attorney DeJEAN of his report of this matter to the FBI and has instructed DeJEAN that no effort should be made to have Miss BENTLEY cited for contempt for a period of thirty days.

Judge HUNTER stated to SA HAMILTON that he was not seeking information from this office concerning parties to the civil suit in question or concerning Miss BENTLEY, but was furnishing his report only for the information of the FBI. He points out in his memorandum of April 12, 1954, however, "It is conceivable that there might be some information this court should have if it is faced with a demand for a contempt." He has stated that he does not anticipate requesting any information from the FBI and that no action was desired by his office with reference to Miss BENTLEY's past or future refusals to accept a subpoena in this matter.

Enclosures (2)
AIRMAIL--SPECIAL DELIVERY
HCB:mab

Director, FBI
AMSD

April 14, 1954

RE: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Miss BENTLEY recently contacted SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT, Resident Agent at Lafayette, Louisiana, and discussed this matter with him. She sought advice from SA HONEYCUTT concerning the action she should take and was, of course, advised that he was not in a position to furnish her with such counsel. She said the action on the part of the plaintiff's attorneys in this suit had caused her considerable embarrassment at the school with which she is affiliated and indicated that regardless of the action taken she did not intend to afford the plaintiff's attorneys the right or opportunity to take the deposition requested.

The foregoing is submitted to the Bureau for its information in view of the possibility that Miss BENTLEY may at a later time be cited for contempt for failure to respond to the order of the court. No action will be taken in this matter in the absence of specific instructions from the Bureau.

C O P Y

Law Offices of
HOWARD B. De JEAN, JR.
Attorney at Law

C O P Y

P. O. Box 61

Shute Building, Opelousas, La.
Telephone 4354

March 5, 1954

Hon. Edwin F. Hunter, Judge
U. S. District Court
Western District of Louisiana
Lake Charles, Louisiana

RE: William Henry Taylor vs.
Washington Daily News
CA-5394-53

Your Honor:

In keeping with your instructions via our telephone conversation March 3, 1954, I have secured the names of the officials at the College of the Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana. It seems that the Reverent Mother Lapeyre is in charge of the entire institution and that the active head of the Academy (high school portion) is Mother Saizan, and the active head of the college is Mother Erskine. I believe that Mother Erskine is probably Miss Bentley's immediate superior whereas Reverend Mother Lapeyre probably has the ultimate word in the conduct of the affairs of the entire institution.

As I explained to you on Wednesday I believe that the service effected on Miss Bentley on February 2, 1954 was good service, and that she could be cited in contempt of your court for failure to heed and obey the subpoena. Furthermore in keeping with your instructions I file herewith a brief supporting my position and contention in this matter. A reference thereto will show that my brief consists chiefly of citations from the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the courts of the United States.

I spoke with Mr. Byron Scott, Attorney for the Plaintiff, of Washington, D. C. yesterday and asked him to familiarize me with the situation giving rise to this law suit. He is presently sending me a copy of the original complaint and a background on the law suit which I shall be pleased to give you in detail at a later date. Briefly, however, I can tell you that Mr. Taylor is not the commentator referred to by you in our conversation, but actually an official with the International Monetary Fund and that apparently the Washington Daily News printed certain things about this man which he considered libelous. I would assume that Miss Bentley's testimony will be centered around questions which would indicate the truth or falsity of the damaging statements printed by the aforesaid newspaper about the Plaintiff. You will recall that Miss Bentley is a

TRUE COPY

134-435-105

former Communist and I would venture to guess that the statements referred to Communistic affiliation on the part of the Plaintiff.

When counsel for both Plaintiff and Defendant learned of Miss Bentley's whereabouts they entered into a stipulation for the taking of her testimony in my office on February 8, 1954. That agreement was sent to me and I forwarded same to the Clerk of our District Court at Shreveport requesting that a subpoena issue in conformity therewith. Thereafter as hereinbefore mentioned service was made on Miss Bentley and she failed to appear at the appointed time and place. After that I contacted Mr. Scott at Washington again and informed him of her apparent refusal to appear for the taking of this deposition and he entered into another stipulation with counsel for the Defendant calling for a re-setting of the date for the taking of the deposition as March 8, 1954 here in Opelousas at my office. Mr. LeBlanc, the United States Marshal, then made two attempts to effect service and could not even get to see Miss Bentley.

At least three persons are prepared to come here from Washington D. C. when this deposition is finally taken and I am therefore particularly anxious in being certain that Miss Bentley will be present when these gentlemen make such a long and expensive trip for that purpose. In keeping therewith I decided to call upon you for your assistance in the matter and did so when you were here on February 25th for your term of court.

I believe that your idea about contacting the Superior at Grand Coteau is very good and that you will get results therefrom. I would ask that you call upon me for any assistance that I may render and would appreciate your keeping me informed of any further developments.

Respectfully,

s/ Howard B. DeJean, Jr.
HOWARD B. DEJEAN, JR.
Attorney at Law
Opelousas, Louisiana

TRUE COPY

Memorandum to Mr. Hamilton, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Agent, Lake Charles, Louisiana

Re: Miss Elizabeth Bentley
William Henry Taylor

vs.

Washington Daily News
Civil Action No. 5394-53
(District of Columbia)

Sometime ago Mr. Howard B. DeJean, Jr., an attorney at law of Opelousas, Louisiana notified me that he had been associated with the plaintiff's Washington counsel in the aforementioned suit, and was endeavoring to take a deposition of Miss Elizabeth Bentley. She is now living in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. Attorney DeJean stated that Miss Bentley had refused to honor the subpoena which had been issued to her from the Clerk of the Federal District Court at Shreveport, Louisiana. He also related that the United States Marshal had made two unsuccessful attempts to serve another subpoena on Miss Bentley. All of this is set out in Mr. DeJean's letter which I instructed him to write to me subsequent to his giving me this information. A copy of this letter is attached hereto for your information.

Mr. DeJean was seeking a contempt proceeding against Miss Bentley. I instructed him that because of the prominence of Miss Bentley and because of the fact that she is at the present time living with the Sisters at Grand Coteau, that he should desist and make another attempt, and that when the new subpoena was issued he should call me. This he did on April 8, 1954. I then told him that I would call the Sisters and explain to them the situation. On the same day I spoke with Mother Erskine and explained to her the status of the matter. That same night Miss Bentley called me. Her conversation was lengthy and to the general effect that this whole thing was a Communist plot and that the suit by Mr. Taylor against the News was not a serious one other than for the purpose of involving her. She says that it is merely an effort to have her repeat testimony that she has given to Congressional committees. This, she claims, would permit her old Communist friends to harrass her with libel suits, etc.

Attorney DeJean of Opelousas has the background of the suit, and all information concerning the lawyers connected with it. It is anticipated that Miss Bentley will ignore all subpoenas and that lawyers seeking her testimony will ask that she be held in contempt.

A report of this matter is made because of the previous prominence of Miss Bentley. It is conceivable that there might be some information this court should have if it is faced with a demand for a contempt.

Lake Charles, La.
April 12, 1954

/s/ Edwin F. Hunter
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

TRUE COPY

134-435-105

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: April 16, 1954

FROM : J. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: ELIZARETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Glavin	_____
Harbo	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Tracy	_____
Mohr	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Elizabeth T. Bentley, who is teaching at the College of Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, was served with a subpoena on February 2, 1954, to give a deposition in connection with a civil libel suit by William H. Taylor against the Washington Daily News. Bentley previously contacted our New Orleans office stating she would not respond to the subpoena as it would interfere with her teaching job and might set a precedent for her being subpoenaed in other cases. The Criminal Division was contacted and on February 4, 1954, they advised that nothing could be done for Bentley and it would appear she would have to respond to the subpoena like any other witness. The Director noted in connection with Bentley's request for our advice that we could not furnish her legal advice and whether she is to comply with the subpoena is her decision to make and she should be guided by her personal conclusions.

The attached memorandum from New Orleans of April 14, 1954, reflects that Federal Judge Edwin F. Hunter of the Western District of Louisiana, does not want Bentley cited for contempt and had the lawyer serve her with another subpoena on April 8, 1954, which Bentley is apparently ignoring. The Federal Judge now has brought this matter to our attention indicating (1) Bentley indirectly gave him the impression she was in the protective custody of the FBI, (2) the Judge did not request any information but felt conceivably we might have data he should know, (3) the Judge does not want Bentley cited for contempt for at least 30 days.

Bentley has been in contact with the Judge and has made claims that the subpoena calls for her giving testimony she gave in closed Congressional hearings and that the suit is a Communist plot to harass her. Bentley's position in this matter does not appear sound and she is subject to a subpoena the same as anyone else. Her refusal to respond to the subpoena could result in a contempt citation and conceivably could affect her future value to the Government as a witness.

RECORDED - 63

134-435-105

Attachment sent 4-19-54
134-435
RJL:mpp

INDEXED - 63

APR 19 1954

5-2676111

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is not clear from the New Orleans memorandum if the agents told the judge that Bentley is not in our protective custody and if they did not, it is believed this should be done and he should be informed that we have previously told Bentley she must make her own decision in this matter.

2. It is recommended that we contact Bentley and make it clear to her that she should not indicate to anyone directly or indirectly that she is in our protective custody. It is believed she should also be informed that with respect to any failure to respond to the subpoena we would not want to see her do anything foolish which might damage her reputation and possibly affect her future value as a Government witness. She should be again informed that this is, however, a matter for her personal decision. A teletype to New Orleans in accordance with the above is attached.

3. There is attached a memorandum to the Criminal Division informing them of the background of this matter in view of the fact that Bentley would be a most necessary witness in any prosecution growing out of the Silvermaster case.

APRIL 19, 1954

URGENT

SAC, NEW ORLEANS

RECORDED - 63

134-435-105

EX. 107-117 ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT.

RE YOUR MEMORANDUM APRIL FOURTEEN, LAST. YOU SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO FEDERAL JUDGE HUNTER THAT BENTLEY IS NOT IN OUR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY AND THAT BENTLEY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT RESPONDING TO THE SUBPOENA IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. CONTACT BENTLEY, INFORM HER SHE SHOULD NOT INDICATE TO ANYONE SHE IS IN OUR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY. TELL HER WITH REFERENCE TO SUBPOENA BUREAU WOULD NOT WANT HER TO DO ANYTHING FOOLISH WHICH MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS BUT THAT THIS IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION.

HOOVER

134-435

RJL:NPP

APR 19 10 59 AM '54
RECEIVED DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
APR 19 10 21 AM '54
RECEIVED REAS. NO. ROOM

INITIALED
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 19 1954

TELETYPE

6-11
WAB5
Ry

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 19 1954

TELETYPE

FBI WASH D C 4-19-54 6-11 P M N B

SAC NEW ORLEANS URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT.

RE YOUR MEMORANDUM APRIL FOURTEEN, LAST. YOU SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO FEDERAL JUDGE HUNTER THAT BENTLEY IS NOT IN OUR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY AND THAT BENTLEY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT RESPONDING TO THE SUBPOENA IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. CONTACT BENTLEY, INFORM HER SHE SHOULD NOT INDICATE TO ANYONE SHE IS IN OUR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY. TELL HER WITH REFERENCE TO SUBPOENA BUREAU WOULD NOT WANT HER TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS GOVERNMENT WITNESS BUT THAT THIS IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION.

HOOVER

END ACK PLS

OK FB

OK FBI NO EH

Director, FBI (61-2115)

4/28/54

SAC, New York (100-21421)

ALEXANDER LEO TRACHTENBERG

IS - C

SMITH ACT, 1940

Rebnair-tel 10/26/53 in the case entitled, "HARRY
DEXTER WHITE, ESPIONAGE - R".

○ Please be advised that the material in Miss
ELIZABETH BENTLEY's book, "Out of Bondage", does not
materially add to or differ from information which Miss
BENTLEY has previously furnished concerning the above
captioned subject and of which the Bureau is aware.

- ① - Bufile 134-435
- 1 - NY 65-14603

134-435-

NOT RECORDED

143 MAY 10 1954

INITIALS ON RETURN

53 MAY 11 1954

TAP: JTB

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-21421-146

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESP - R

ANATOL GROMOV
ESP - R

DATE: 4/30/54

Re your airtel 10/26/53 in case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE;
ESP - R".

Retal instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure there is no other information (contained in the book) which expands upon or differs with data she has furnished the Bureau and that all pertinent data in the book be channeled to the appropriate individual files.

References pertaining to ANATOL GROMOV whom BENTLEY knew as "Al", are found in the book on pages 250, 253-255, 266-269, 274, 286, 290-293, 297-299, and 301.

In view of the fact that GROMOV has long been outside the US, and because of the rather large number of references to him in the book, a detailed comparison of each reference with information previously furnished by BENTLEY concerning him was not made; however, from a perusal of the references, there appears to be little information in them which materially changes or adds to information which BENTLEY has previously furnished concerning him.

The NYO does not appear to have a separate case file on GROMOV. Material on him is contained in the GREGORY case file. It is not known whether or not the Bureau or WFO maintain separate case files on this subject; however, sufficient copies of this letter are being designated for inclusion in such files if they exist.

A copy of the book "Out of Bondage" is maintained in the NYO Library and may be referred to should the occasion arise in the future that the information contained therein needs to be reviewed in greater detail.

1-Bufile 65- (ANATOL GROMOV)
1-Bufile 65-56402
2-Washington Field (1-65-) (GREGORY CASE);
1-65- (ANATOL GROMOV) (Info)
1-NY 134-182

RECORDED-53

10 MAY 3 1954

LOG:AMF

EX-115

MAY 13 1954

134-435-106
L. T. [Signature]
ESP/SGO

FILED IN

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: APR 29 1954

FROM: SAC, BOSTON (100-29100)

SUBJECT: FRANCES MOIRE DAVIS, nee HALE
Aka, Mrs. Robert Gorham Davis,
Mrs. George Patrick Wood, Mrs. Claud
Cockburn, Mrs. Hermann Frunck
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to the pending report of SA JAMES T. SULLIVAN dated April 26, 1954, at Boston in captioned matter, copies of which are being sent to Albany, Atlanta, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, Newark, New York, Omaha, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Washington Field.

JTS:km

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON

Copies: Bufile 100-HERMANN FRUNCK
100-ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
100-JOHN DONOVAN
100-HAROLD WARE
100-ELIZABETH DONOVAN
100-CHARLES FRANKER
100-MILRED FRANKER
100-JOHN AET
100-JESSICA SMITH WARE AET
100-MARION MACRACH
100-NATHAN WITT
100-LEE PRESSMAN
100-VICTOR PERLO
100-ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN
100-HENRY COLLINS
100-Mrs. LEN de CAUL
100-DONALD HISS
100-ALGER HISS
100-JOE CURRAN
100-J. PETERS
100-JACOB GOLOS
100-ELIZABETH BENTLEY
100-JOSEPH FREEMAN

Registered Mail

134-435

60 JUN 10 1954

ES 100-29100

Copies: Bufile (Cont.) 65-FNU "YOUNG"
100-FRANCES HALE CRYSTAL
100-DANIEL CRYSTAL

3 Albany - 100-Mrs. ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
1 --GRANVILLE HICKS
1 - ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS

1 Atlanta (Info)
1 Charlotte (Info)
1 Cincinnati (Info)
1 Kansas City (Info)
1 Los Angeles (Info)
1 Miami (Info) ROLLO ELITTE
2 Newark 100-FRANCES HALE CRYSTAL
100-DANIEL CRYSTAL

23 New York
100-GEORGE PATRICK WOOD
100-CLAUDE COCKBURN
100-HERMANN BRUNCK
100-ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
100-GRANVILLE HICKS
100-JOHN DONOVAN
100-ELIZABETH DONOVAN
100-HAROLD WARE
100-CHARLES KRAMER
100-MILDRED KRAMER
100-JOHN AET
100-JESSICA SMYTH WARE AET
100-IRVING RICHMAN
100-NATHAN WITT
100-LEE PRESSMAN
100-VICTOR PERLO
100-ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN
100-HENRY COLLINS
100-Mrs. LEE de CAUL
100-DONALD HISS
100-ALGER HISS
100-JOE CURRAN
100-J. PETERS
100-JACOB GOLOS
100-ELIZABETH BENTLEY
100-JOSEPH FREEMAN
65-FNU "YOUNG"
100-ELLA BLOOR
100-JEAN KERSAVIN.

BS 100-29100

Copies: (Cont.)

1 Omaha (Info)
1 Philadelphia (Info)
1 Pittsburgh 100-ELIZABETH DONOVAN
30 Washington Field
100-ROLLO BRITTEN
100-FRANCES HOPE HALE CRYSTAL
100-ROY BRITTEN
100-GEORGE PATRICK WOOD
100-CLAUDE COCKBURN
100-HERMANN BRUNCK, aka Walter Kerr
100-ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
100-GRANVILLE HICKS
100-JOHN DONOVAN
100-HAROLD WARE
100-ELIZABETH DONOVAN
100-CHARLES KRAMER
100-MILDRED KRAMER
100-JOHN AET
100-JESSICA SMITH WARE AET
100-MARION BACHRACH
100-NATHAN WITT
100-LEE PRESSMAN
100-VICTOR PERLO
100-ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN
100-HENRY COLLINS
100-Mrs. LEN de CAUL
100-DONALD HISS
100-ALGER HISS
100-JOE CURRAN
100-J. PETERS
100-JACOB GOLOS
100-ELIZABETH BENTLEY
100-FIU "YOUNG"
100-ELLA BLOOR
100-ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
100-GRANVILLE HICKS 100-Mrs. VICTOR PERLO
100-JEAN KARSAVIA

Boston copies:

100-19107 ROBERT GORHAM DAVIS
100-22762 GRANVILLE HICKS
100-3369 HAROLD WARE (Prov. file)
105-192 CHARLES KRAMER
100-16472 JOHN AET
100-19171 JESSICA SMITH WARE AET
100-22658 MARION BACHRACH
100-25975 NATHAN WITT
100-9733 LEE PRESSMAN

BS 100-29100

Boston copies: (Cont.) 65-3201 VICTOR FERLO
65-3586 ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN
100-21422 HENRY COLLINS
100-27622 DONALD HISS
100-22822 ALGER HISS
100-13117 JOE CURRAN
100-22743 J. PETERS
100-21049 ELLA BLOOR
100-28769 FRANCES HOPE HALE CRYSTAL
100-20918 DEFECTED COMMUNISTS
100-16191 CP-FUNDS
100-17999 CP-SECURITY MEASURES

As set out in referenced report, Mrs. DAVIS was interviewed at her Northampton, Massachusetts, home on March 22, 1954, by Special Agents JAMES T. SULLIVAN and ISAAH T. WOODBURY of the Boston Division.

(b)(7)(D)

Professor DAVIS was interviewed on January 11, 1954, by SAs JAMES T. SULLIVAN and ISAAH T. WOODBURY and proved extremely cooperative. Thereafter he advised the Boston Office that his wife wished to provide information regarding her Communist Party activities at Washington, D.C. and New York City in the middle 1930's.

The Bureau, Albany, New York, Washington Field Office, and Boston had no information concerning the Communist Party activities of Mrs. DAVIS under her maiden name and present marriage name. Instant interview developed the information of three previous marriages and leads were set out to conduct indices checks under the additional names used by subject through the years.

Mrs. DAVIS was extremely cooperative during instant interview and stated she would be perfectly willing to discuss not only her own activities but the activities of others whom she knew in the Communist Party and related front organizations. She pointed out, however, that her memory has become extremely cloudy concerning the identity of many such individuals and that while she can describe these persons accurately she cannot now recall their names. She pointed out further that she has done voluminous reading of the various exposés of the Communist Party published since 1940 and that she has reached a point now where at times she cannot recall whether she has personal knowledge of various events or whether she has read this information in such publications as the House Committee Reports, various Senatorial Investigating Committee Reports, the published works of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, ELIZABETH BENTLEY, WALPH DE TOLEDANO, and other individuals.

Boston has made arrangements to recontact Mrs. DAVIS as often as is necessary and will refresh her memory for information regarding her activities in the period 1934 - 1937. Subsequent interviews will attempt to ascertain her knowledge of the degree of Communist Party infiltration in the publishing field and among writers and likewise will attempt to ascertain whether she has knowledge of Communist Party activities in Massachusetts from 1939 to 1954.

Inasmuch as all offices receiving copies of this letter have received copies of its accompanying report that information concerning individuals named by Mrs. DAVIS in connection with Communist Party activities will be set out herein.

Mrs. DAVIS stated that in the fall or winter of 1934 she and her husband, HERMANN BRUNCK, had been recruited into the Communist Party by JOHN DONOVAN, who at that time was employed by the N.R.A. at Washington, D.C. She described JOHN DONOVAN as a "sensational character," who was employed by Section 7A of the N.R.A. and as an individual whom N.R.A. authorities had tried to fire because of his Communist Party activities. She stated that JOHN DONOVAN was a close friend of HAROLD WARE, who had set up the Communist apparatus in the Federal Government and that DONOVAN came from the New York City area and had studied at Columbia University.

JOHN DONOVAN's wife, ELIZABETH DONOVAN, was likewise known to Mrs. DAVIS as a secret member of a concealed cell of the Communist Party at Washington during the years 1935 and 1936. She stated that she could not recall having met Mrs. ELIZABETH DONOVAN but from records maintained by HERMANN BRUNCK and from other sources she was aware that ELIZABETH DONOVAN had been in the Communist Party. It is her understanding that JOHN and ELIZABETH DONOVAN have been divorced and that ELIZABETH DONOVAN subsequently took up residence in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, area. Mrs. DAVIS does not know whether ELIZABETH DONOVAN subsequently remarried.

Mrs. DAVIS stated that each unit of the Communist Party as set up by HAROLD WARE was comprised of about 5 individuals. She stated that at the first meeting she attended there were present along with herself, her husband, HERMANN BRUNCK, CHARLES KRAMER, and his wife, MILDRED KRAMER,

and Mrs. MARION BACHRACH. Mrs. DAVIS pointed out in regard to CHARLES KRAMER that she also knew this individual as CHARLES KRAVITSKY. She stated that CHARLES and MILDRED KRAMER at this time resided in the 1800 block of a street in North West Washington which ran parallel to such streets as Euclid, Fairman, Girard, Harvard, and Irving Streets. She stated that KRAMER at that time was employed by an organization she believed was called "Consumer's Council" and that his wife, MILDRED, as of that time was a housewife and had no outside employments.

Mrs. DAVIS thereafter identified JOHN ABT, MARION BACHRACH, NATHAN "NAT" WITT, LEE PRESSMAN, VICTOR PERLO, and ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN as individuals known to her as Communist Party members. She stated that the above named, other than SILVERMAN, were in her Communist Party unit and that SILVERMAN was in the Communist Party unit headed by her husband, HERSCHEL BRUNCK.

She likewise identified HENRY COLLINS as another devoted Communist Party member and stated that many Communist Party meetings were held in the HENRY COLLINS' residence, a converted stable, situated in a block in the center of Washington, D.C.

Subject subsequently identified JESSICA SMITH, who at that time was the wife of HAROLD WARE, as another Communist Party member well known to her. She stated that HAROLD WARE had organized the various groups infiltrating the Federal Government and that Mrs. JESSICA SMITH WARE had certain specific functions to handle for the Communist Party, the exact nature of which was unknown to Mrs. DAVIS.

Mrs. DAVIS stated she has never attended Communist Party meetings with JESSICA SMITH but inasmuch as JESSICA SMITH had been in contact with J. PETERS, Soviet espionage agent in 1937 and had later married NATHAN WITT, another Communist Party member, after the death of her first husband, HAROLD WARE, Mrs. DAVIS has no doubt whatever of JESSICA SMITH's Communist Party membership.

Concerning LEE PRESSMAN's wife, Mrs. DAVIS stated that during 1935 and 1936, as best she recalls, this individual, whose first name she cannot recall, was not a Communist Party member. She stated she can recall small talk indicating that Mrs. LEE PRESSMAN had made various reservations concerning the Communist Party and had indicated to her husband and his Communist Party friends that she preferred a more conventional way of life. Whether this individual subsequently joined the Communist Party Mrs. DAVIS stated she could not know and would only conjecture that she thought not.

Mrs. DAVIS identified VICTOR PERLO as another individual who was well known to her as a Communist Party member during this particular period. She recalled that PERLO was single at the time of their first meeting and

that subsequently he had married a girl who also became a Communist Party member. Mrs. DAVIS could not recall the name of PERLO's wife. She described him as a very "strange character," who at times acted like an adolescent and who at times exhibited what she termed a "retarded character." She stated that PERLO was very emotionally immature and was like a child in that he could be readily advised and easily led by his fellow Communist Party members. She pointed out, however, that VICTO PERLO was an individual "I could be frightened of." She stated she feels PERLO "could never be reached to give up the Communist Party inasmuch as he is a complete fanatic, sincerely devoted to Communism."

Mrs. DAVIS stated she knew ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN very slightly and recalled that he used the name GEORGE SILVERMAN. She recalled SILVERMAN was extremely nervous at all times and appeared "scared as a rabbit that his activities would be discovered." She stated that for this reason Party members and leaders found SILVERMAN extremely hard to handle despite his devotion to the Communist Party cause. She recalled particularly meeting ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN at a time when her husband, HERMANN BRUNCK was in the last stages of his mental illness when SILVERMAN expressed fear that possibly BRUNCK in his mad ravings might expose the identity of Communist Party members such as SILVERMAN.

Returning then to the question of the Communist Party membership of HENRY COLLINS, Mrs. DAVIS stated that, while she originally stated she could not recall the identity of the individual who collected Communist Party dues, she feels now that HENRY COLLINS was actually the Financial Secretary more or less for these various Communist Party cells. She stated she thought HENRY COLLINS was married at that time but could not recall his wife and would not be willing to make a positive statement regarding his marital status at that time.

Mrs. DAVIS also identified as an extremely well concealed Communist Party member Mrs. LEN de CAUX. She identified this individual's husband as the individual in charge of publicity for the CIO during the late 1940's and pointed out that it is possible LEN de CAUX himself was not a Communist Party member inasmuch as his wife took great pains to conceal her Communist Party membership not only from outsiders but from her husband as well.

Concerning MARION BACHMACH, Mrs. DAVIS recalled that this individual was a housewife whose husband was not at all sympathetic to the philosophy of Communists. Mrs. DAVIS stated that she had been unusually friendly with MARION BACHMACH inasmuch as Mrs. BACHMACH had taken care of her and had offered solace and comfort following the death of HERMANN BRUNCK.

At this time in the interview Mrs. DAVIS made the statement that, despite the great amount of publicity afforded ALGER HISS and his brother, DONALD HISS, in the public press, she as of this time cannot recall having known these individuals as Communist Party members, nor can she recall hearing

from the above named individuals that the HISS brothers were members of the Communist Party as of this time.

It was at this point in the interview that Mrs. DAVIS was questioned concerning possible access she had to secret Government files. She stated that while she had no access to such files she had been asked to obtain nutritional formulae from Department of Agriculture sources, inasmuch as her position in the Department provided easy access to these formulae.

She then mentioned in this same contact that her husband, HERMANN BRUNCK, while employed by the N.L.R.B., had been ordered by an unknown Communist Party official to contact "big persons" in New York City regarding Communist Party activities and especially Communist Party strategy on the New York City waterfront. She specifically named JOE CURRAN of the Maritime Union in New York as a Communist Party member whom HERMANN BRUNCK met periodically at New York to discuss Communist Party strategy.

Mrs. DAVIS recalled that HERMANN BRUNCK "became a nervous wreck" as a result of these secret meetings, inasmuch as he by nature was not a devious individual and wanted no part of any underground and/or secret manipulations in the interest of the Communist Party. However, he was sufficiently disciplined by the Communist Party to see CURRAN at New York City when BRUNCK's schedule called for a trip to the New York area.

Mrs. DAVIS stated that at this time she could not recall whether other individuals at New York City had sat in on these meetings but specifically recalled JOE CURRAN's name being used by her husband.

Returning then to the subject of J. PETERS, Mrs. DAVIS stated she knew this individual as "PETE" and "STEVE" and recalled that on at least one occasion and possibly more he had lectured to Communist Party units at Washington on the topic of "Democratic Centralism."

As pointed out in the details of accompanying report, she recalled that, when her husband, HERMANN BRUNCK, had inquired of PETERS the reason for the severity of a Communist Party review of a literary work of SIDNEY HOOK, PETERS had replied that the Communist Party could not treat a renegade as a human being.

She recalled also that, in the spring of 1937 at New York City when JESSICA SMITH had made arrangements for her to talk to J. PETERS concerning her withdrawal from the Communist Party, PETERS had been very kind to her and expressed his understanding of her confused mental condition following the death of HERMANN BRUNCK. Mrs. DAVIS was unable to recall specifically whether in her meetings with J. PETERS she had heard him express anything which might give a clue to some of the project

he headed in this country for the Communist Party.

She pointed out that she feels she has never met ELIZABETH BENTLEY, whose picture she has seen in the public press on numerous occasions and likewise does not recognize the name JACOB GOLOS, BENTLEY's superior in Soviet espionage. She stated it is possible, however, that she met GOLOS and might have known him under an alias.

Concerning Communist Party membership records, Mrs. DAVIS feels that VICTOR FERLO "probably was the individual delegated with the handling of these records because of his fanaticism and devotion to the Party." She stated she cannot be definite on this point, however, but recalls that records were kept but that their distribution and handling were carefully done because of the names involved and the secretiveness insisted on by HAROLD WARE.

It is her best recollection that HENRY COLLINS acted as Treasurer for the units she has knowledge of. She stated, however, that once again she is guessing on this point but added that somewhere in the back of her head she has a recollection that money was turned over to HENRY COLLINS for eventual distribution to a more highly placed Party official.

In the spring of 1937, following the death of her husband, Mrs. DAVIS took a position as a writer with "New Masses," which at that time was edited by JOSEPH FREEMAN, whom Mrs. DAVIS knew as a Communist Party member. In her several conversations with FREEMAN, Mrs. DAVIS happened to let slip information placing her in the Communist Party and providing hints as to the identity of the activities of Communist Party functionaries known to her and other information which, to an individual of FREEMAN's mental acuity, might expose various individuals.

Mrs. DAVIS thereupon decided to talk this matter over with JESSICA SMITH, who at that time was editing "Soviet Russia Today." JESSICA sent her to an apartment in the West 20's or West 30's in New York City where the above mentioned interview with J. PETERS took place. Mrs. DAVIS recalled that "with tears in my eyes I told him I had been undependable and had perhaps unwittingly exposed the operations of the Washington units of the Party. J. PETERS expressed his understanding and stated kindly that perhaps no damage had been done and thereupon excused her from further participation in the Party's activities.

Mrs. DAVIS stated she has not seen JESSICA SMITH since that time but is aware that, following the death of HAROLD WARE, JESSICA became the wife of JOHN ABT.

She stated that either JESSICA SMITH or J. PETERS or "STEVE" as Mrs. DAVIS named him, and "most likely it was 'STEVE'," asked her to make available one room in her Banks Street apartment to store a file case containing papers. Mrs. DAVIS recalled that this file cabinet consisted of 3 or 4 drawers and was kept locked at all times. She never did see the contents of this file cabinet, she claims.

She stated that, shortly after she had given permission for the Party to store this file cabinet in her apartment, an individual, who called himself "YOUNG" and whose first name she never did ascertain, began visiting the apartment almost on a daily basis for months, during which time he spent hours in poring over the various papers contained in the file cabinet.

Mrs. DAVIS described him as a white male who in 1937 was in his forties. She stated he had no particularly distinguishing marks but had a full head of black hair, dark eyes, and had been a hatter by trade for many years and as a result of this had made a great deal of money. She expressed the belief that "YOUNG" was a Latvian by birth and had been a long-time Communist Party member whose only contact in the United States was EARL BROWDER or persons more highly placed in the Communist Party hierarchy.

She recalled that he had a wife and child in the Soviet Union but had been forced to leave them there upon taking up a specific function in the United States. He impressed on Mrs. DAVIS during much of the time he spent going over his papers that he was supposed "never to talk to anyone." She stated that "YOUNG" was a kind and gentle man who had a very soft speaking voice and likewise was a person "whose loneliness I have never seen equaled."

She further recalled that in the 1920's "YOUNG" supposedly had worked in the New York City area for unknown companies in connection with his trade as a hatter. Although stating that she had not seen any of the papers in the file cabinet maintained by "YOUNG," Mrs. DAVIS stated that at least on one occasion "YOUNG" had flashed before her a paper indicating that the Communist Party had intercepted mail from a person in the employ of LEON TROTSKY.

From other remarks made by "YOUNG" at this time and perhaps on other occasions, but the exact wording of which she cannot now recall, Mrs. DAVIS leans to the belief that "YOUNG" at that time was possibly engaged in the Communist Party plot to infiltrate LEON TROTSKY's organization and also that "YOUNG" in 1937 might have had over-all supervision of the plans that led to the assassination of LEON TROTSKY several years later in Mexico City.

It is pointed out to all offices receiving copies of this letter that the Bureau by airtel to New York dated March 24, 1954, following receipt of Boston airtel dated March 22, 1954, has made New York office of origin in a 65 classification case on FNU "YOUNG." Boston, upon its reinterview of Mrs. DAVIS, will question her at great length concerning this Soviet Agent.

Mrs. DAVIS recalls seeing ELLA REEVE FLOOR, HAROLD WARE's mother, who was known in the Communist Party as "Mother" FLOOR, on several occasions. She

stated she talked briefly to "Mother" BLOOR but had nothing to do with her and cannot comment on "Mother" BLOOR's activities in the Communist Party.

Mrs. DAVIS identified JEAN KARSAVINA as perhaps the only person she had recruited into the Communist Party. She identified JEAN KARSAVINA as an individual of Polish extraction who had graduated from Smith College at Northampton, Massachusetts, and was employed as a secretary in Washington, D.C. in a governmental agency. She recalled JEAN KARSAVINA had a married sister named PATTERSON (phonetic) and that JEAN KARSAVINA had visited Mrs. DAVIS during 1937 while on vacation from her job at Washington, D.C.

She stated that Miss KARSAVINA had been on the point of joining the Communist Party and had discussed particular points of the philosophy of Communism with Mrs. DAVIS and had joined the Party when Mrs. DAVIS clarified the points bothering this individual. Mrs. DAVIS stated she does not know where this individual is at the present time and whether she is employed by the Federal Government.

While discussing her own biographical data, Mrs. DAVIS mentioned FRANCES HOPE HALE CRYSTAL, the daughter of her brother, MAC EARLAND HALE. Mrs. DAVIS stated that FRANCES HALE CRYSTAL, who resides in New Jersey, was believed by her to be a Communist Party member but pointed out that she had no definite information indicating this to be a fact. She further pointed out that, "My brother MAC is extremely conservative" and indirectly might have been the cause of his daughter's joining the Communist Party due either to his lack of understanding of her or his refusal to give her proper guidance and counsel.

Mrs. DAVIS recalled that word reached her in the middle forties that FRANCES HALE was at that time keeping company with an individual known to her family as a member of the Jewish religion and as a possible Communist Party member. Mrs. DAVIS was asked by the family members to talk to FRANCES HALE in the hope that Mrs. DAVIS could disillusion FRANCES regarding the Communist Party and its members. She thereupon invited FRANCES to her summer home on Cape Cod, expecting to provide her sufficient information on the Party so that FRANCES would give up DANIEL CRYSTAL and call off the marriage. Instead, FRANCES appeared at the Cape Cod summer home and advised Mrs. DAVIS she had already married DANIEL CRYSTAL and that they were then on their honeymoon trip. Mrs. DAVIS thereupon made no reference to the Communist Party to her niece.

She stated also that her sister, the wife of ROLLO WITTE, of Melbourne, Florida, is not a Communist Party member or a member of any cited organizations, according to her best knowledge. She stated that following the testimony of Professor ROBERT GOLDMAN DAVIS before the H.C.U.A. in

February, 1953, Mrs. ROLLO WRITTEN had commended Professor DAVIS for his stand taken before the H.C.U.A. Mrs. DAVIS feels that had her sister and her husband been affiliated with any organizations similar to the Communist Party they definitely would not have written a commendatory letter to Professor DAVIS.

As has been set out earlier in this letter, it is again pointed out that the interview of Mrs. DAVIS necessarily had to be terminated when her two school age children arrived home from school. The bulk of this interview was taken up in the obtaining of biographical and background information on Mrs. DAVIS and her first three husbands. The information concerning individuals mentioned in instant letter was made in passing by Mrs. DAVIS and subsequent interviews will be directed to enlarging the scope of information on these individuals held by Mrs. DAVIS.

The results of subsequent interviews will be reported to the Bureau and interested offices.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: April 23, 1954

This is to advise that on April 23, 1954, captioned individual telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office from Grand Coteau, Louisiana, at which time she stated that for the past three months she has been terrorized by one HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., described by Miss BENTLEY as an attorney having offices in Opelousas, Louisiana. In connection with this, she stated that at 12:30 P.M., April 23, 1954, DeJEAN had, according to BENTLEY, forcibly gained entry to her classroom at the College of the Sacred Heart and attempted to serve her with a subpoena relative to the case of WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR vs. WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS (Civil Action 5394-53, District of Columbia). Miss BENTLEY advised that she resisted the service of this subpoena and inquired of DeJEAN whether or not he was a United States Marshal or a representative from the United States Marshal's Office. DeJEAN placed the subpoena contained in an envelope on a table in the front of the classroom, and ran from the building and the college grounds. Contained in the same envelope with the subpoena was a sum of money, namely, \$4.84 in small change, the purpose of which is not known to BENTLEY.

Miss BENTLEY states that the subpoena mentioned above orders her to report May 17, 1954 at 1:00 PM in the offices of HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., Opelousas, Louisiana, to give testimony relative to the above-mentioned civil action. She advised that the subpoena referred to was signed by JOSEPH A. RICE, Deputy Clerk, U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. She continued that the above-mentioned action is an attempt to place her in a position where her testimony would no longer be privileged, which suit arose, according to BENTLEY, from her testimony before a Congressional Committee regarding WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, which was subsequently published in the Washington Daily News.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she will not honor this subpoena and will seek local action against HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., on a charge of breaking & entering. She stated she was highly incensed with the tactics utilized by DeJEAN, and felt this Bureau should take some action against this individual, possibly on the basis of impersonation in that he impersonated a U. S. Marshal. In connection with this, however, she advised that at no time did DeJEAN intimate that he was acting in the capacity of a United States Marshal.

Miss BENTLEY stated that she was going to direct communications relative to this matter and the "attack on my personal liberty" to the attention of the Director of this Bureau and Attorney General.

134-435-107

BPM:leo

RECORDED-19

8 MAY 6 1954

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY INDEXED-19

Letter to Director
Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY

1/28/54

Miss BENTLEY was advised that her actions as regards the answering of the above-mentioned subpoena was a matter for her personal decision and that from the facts furnished by her there did not appear to be any violation within the jurisdiction of this Bureau. Miss BENTLEY made inquiry as to what action on her behalf could be taken by this Bureau, and she was advised that this Bureau was not in a position to furnish her with any such counsel with regard to this matter.

No further action will be taken in this matter in the absence of specific instructions from the Bureau.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: April 23, 1954

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Miss BENTLEY stated that she was going to direct communications relative to this matter and the "attack on my personal liberty" to the attention of the Director of this Bureau and Attorney General BROWNELL.

BPM:leo

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

URGENT
AIR-TEL

RECORDED 19

MAY 5, 1954

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-80)

134-435-107

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT, REURMEMO

4-28-54, WHICH IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO THE BUREAU'S TELETYPE
OF 4-19-54. IMMEDIATELY ADVISE RESULT OF CONTACT WITH THE
JUDGE AND BENTLEY.

HOOVER

RJL:awn

134-125

Note: Federal Judge Edwin F. Hunter of the Western District of Louisiana considered citing Bentley for contempt for her failure to respond to subpoenas relative to a civil libel suit by William H. Taylor against the "Washington Daily News." The Judge got the impression that Bentley might be indirectly in our protective custody. In our teletype of April 19th, we instructed New Orleans to inform Judge Hunter that Bentley was not in our protective custody. We instructed Bentley should be contacted and told not to indicate to anyone she was in our protective custody and that with reference to the subpoenas, we did not want her to do anything which might damage her reputation and possible future value as a witness but that this was a matter for her personal decision.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAILED 16

MAY 5 1954

COMM-FBI

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)
 FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: 5/10/54

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

ReNYlet April 14, 1954 forwarding copies of a letter dated May 5, 1954 to Judge HUNTER from HOWARD B. DEJEAN, JR., attorney, Opelousas, Louisiana, and of a memorandum prepared by Judge EDWIN F. HUNTER, JR., Federal Judge, Western District of Louisiana, addressed to Special Agent JAMES W. HAMILTON, Resident Agent at Lake Charles, Louisiana and dated April 12, 1954. These documents relate to attempted service of a subpoena on Miss BENTLEY in connection with a suit involving WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR vs. Washington Daily News (Civil Action 5394-53, District Columbia).

On May 7, 1954 Judge HUNTER again contacted SA HAMILTON and furnished him with a supplementary memorandum prepared by him on that date reflecting the results of an interview had by Judge HUNTER with Miss BENTLEY at Lake Charles, Louisiana on May 7, 1954. Copies of this memorandum are submitted with this letter for the attention of the Bureau.

Judge HUNTER advised that he is fully aware that Miss BENTLEY is not under the protective custody of the Bureau and that the FBI is not responsible for her actions in this matter. He states that he is further aware that Miss BENTLEY undoubtedly has performed a great service to this country in the past and that he is extremely reluctant to take any formal action to institute contempt proceedings against her, particularly if the plaintiffs in instant suit are possibly Communists as Miss BENTLEY alleges. He said, however, that it is apparent that Miss BENTLEY does not intend to accept service of subpoena in the matter pending in Judge HUNTER'S court relative to depositions from Miss BENTLEY and that he of course cannot permit her to continue to flaunt the authority of his court and in his opinion contempt proceedings against her will necessarily be an eventuality.

AMSD

JWH:dfe

Enclosures

RECORDED-62
 INDEXED-62
 EX-123

134-435-109

MAY 13 1954

Judge HUNTER noted that depositions were scheduled to be taken from Miss BENTLEY on May 17, 1954 by attorneys representing the plaintiffs in this suit. He advised that Miss BENTLEY informed him on May 7, 1954 that she intended to go to Washington, D. C. and consult with the Attorney General in this matter, indicating that she would so contact the Attorney General on or about May 18, 1954.

Judge HUNTER informed Agent HAMILTON that he is apprehensive of the outcome in this matter inasmuch as he fears, should Miss BENTLEY be cited for contempt, that wide-spread publicity will result; that as Miss BENTLEY maintains the plaintiffs in this suit are Communists and she, Miss BENTLEY, is anti-Communist, and as Judge HUNTER is "against her" in this matter, therefore, she has implied that Judge HUNTER is Communist. He states that he fears that should he hold her in contempt she might make statements to the press so implying that Judge HUNTER is a Communist or favors Communism because of his actions against her. Judge HUNTER has indicated that the memoranda submitted by him to this office are to enable his actions to be a matter of record and stated on May 7, 1954 that he hoped, should Miss BENTLEY contact the Attorney General, that his reports of his actions in this matter as submitted to this office would be immediately available to the Department for reference.

Judge HUNTER advised that before taking any formal steps to cite Miss BENTLEY for contempt he will consult with Judge BEN C. DAWKINS, Senior Judge of the Western District of Louisiana.

The above is submitted for the information of the Bureau. It is suggested, in view of Miss BENTLEY'S indication that she will contact the Attorney General in this matter, that copies of Judge HUNTER'S memoranda of April 12 and May 7, 1954 be furnished to the Department for its information.

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

5/10/54

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Remylet April 14, 1954 forwarding copies of a letter dated May 5, 1954 to Judge HUNTER from HOWARD B. DeJEAN, JR., attorney, Opelousas, Louisiana, and of a memorandum prepared by Judge EDWIN F. HUNTER, JR., Federal Judge, Western District of Louisiana, addressed to Special Agent JAMES W. HAMILTON, Resident Agent at Lake Charles, Louisiana and dated April 12, 1954. These documents relate to attempted service of a subpoena on Miss BENTLEY in connection with a suit involving WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR vs. Washington Daily News (Civil Action 5394-53, District Columbia).

On May 7, 1954 Judge HUNTER again contacted SA HAMILTON and furnished him with a supplementary memorandum prepared by him on that date reflecting the results of an interview had by Judge HUNTER with Miss BENTLEY at Lake Charles, Louisiana on May 7, 1954. Copies of this memorandum are submitted with this letter for the attention of the Bureau.

Judge HUNTER advised that he is fully aware that Miss BENTLEY is not under the protective custody of the Bureau and that the FBI is not responsible for her actions in this matter. He states that he is further aware that Miss BENTLEY undoubtedly has performed a great service to this country in the past and that he is extremely reluctant to take any formal action to institute contempt proceedings against her, particularly if the plaintiffs in instant suit are possibly Communists as Miss BENTLEY alleges. He said, however, that it is apparent that Miss BENTLEY does not intend to accept service of subpoena in the matter pending in Judge HUNTER'S court relative to depositions from Miss BENTLEY and that he of course cannot permit her to continue to flaunt the authority of his court and in his opinion contempt proceedings against her will necessarily be an eventuality.

AMSD

JWH:dfs

Enclosures

Judge HUNTER noted that depositions were scheduled to be taken from Miss BENTLEY on May 17, 1954 by attorneys representing the plaintiffs in this suit. He advised that Miss BENTLEY informed him on May 7, 1954 that she intended to go to Washington, D. C. and consult with the Attorney General in this matter, indicating that she would so contact the Attorney General on or about May 18, 1954.

Judge HUNTER informed Agent HAMILTON that he is apprehensive of the outcome in this matter inasmuch as he fears, should Miss BENTLEY be cited for contempt, that wide-spread publicity will result; that as Miss BENTLEY maintains the plaintiffs in this suit are Communists and she, Miss BENTLEY, is anti-Communist, and as Judge HUNTER is "against her" in this matter, therefore, she has implied that Judge HUNTER is Communist. He states that he fears that should he hold her in contempt she might make statements to the press so implying that Judge HUNTER is a Communist or favors Communism because of his actions against her. Judge HUNTER has indicated that the memoranda submitted by him to this office are to enable his actions to be a matter of record and stated on May 7, 1954 that he hoped, should Miss BENTLEY contact the Attorney General, that his reports of his actions in this matter as submitted to this office would be immediately available to the Department for reference.

Judge HUNTER advised that before taking any formal steps to cite Miss BENTLEY for contempt he will consult with Judge BEN C. DAWKINS, Senior Judge of the Western District of Louisiana.

The above is submitted for the information of the Bureau. It is suggested, in view of Miss BENTLEY'S indication that she will contact the Attorney General in this matter, that copies of Judge HUNTER'S memoranda of April 12 and May 7, 1954 be furnished to the Department for its information.

ENCLOSURES TO: BUREAU (134-435)

2 copies of memorandum submitted by Judge
EDWIN HUNTER to SA HAMILTON

N. O. #134-89

AIR MAIL

SPECIAL DELIVERY

134-435-108

ENCLOSURE

7
Lake Charles, Louisiana
May 7, 1954

Memorandum to Mr. Hamilton, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Agent, Lake Charles, Louisiana

Re: Miss Elizabeth Bentley
William Henry Taylor

vs.

Washington Daily News
Civil Action No. 5394-53
(District of Columbia)

This supplements report of April 12, 1954 relative same matter. Miss Bentley called at my office today. She told me that she had been served with a subpoena by Mr. Howard B. DeJean, Jr. and she wanted me to tell her that the subpoena was not valid. I related to her that I could not pass on the matter as it was not before me, but at her insistence I did examine the law and read to her excerpts therefrom which was to the general effect that service could be made by someone other than the Marshal, and I told her further that while I was not passing on the matter, it would appear to me that the service was good. She proceeded to tell me that she was being intimidated by Mr. DeJean. I informed her that she should consult a lawyer. She said that she did not have money to consult a lawyer. I informed her that because a contempt proceeding might be involved, that if she did not have the money to consult a lawyer, I would appoint one to represent her. She said she would think about this and let me know. Her position is that this is a matter that should go to the United States Supreme Court. She says that she does not think that a federal witness as she has been should be continuously "hampered and intimidated." I asked her who was intimidating her, and she takes the position that Mr. DeJean is intimidating her by representing the people who want to get her testimony, etc. She tells me that she intends to go to Washington to consult the Attorney General.

It now seems certain that Miss Bentley is going to ignore the subpoena that has been served upon her and that lawyers seeking her testimony will ask that she be held in contempt.

Mr. Mason Gilfoil, Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana was present during all but a few minutes of my conversation with Miss Bentley.

Edwin F. Hunter, Jr.
United States District Judge

Date of Removal 5-26-54Report
Letter ✓Enclosure yellow out g submitted byDated 5/13/54 has been removed for Miss Fieldsto be sent to Mr HooverSubject Bentley

Synopsis _____

This is to be removed from file upon the return of the item and
forwarded to the Coordinator of Mail and Files

Removed by Amf

Date Request Received _____

File Number 134-435-108

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

May 13, 1954

Director, FBI

134-435-108

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SACRED HEART COLLEGE
FBI File 100-755

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON

By memorandum dated April 19, 1954, to Mr. Olney, we pointed out that Elizabeth T. Bentley, who is teaching at the College of Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, was served with a subpoena on February 2, 1954, to give a deposition in connection with a civil libel suit by William H. Taylor against the "Washington Daily News." Miss Bentley did not respond to the subpoena and a second subpoena was issued on April 8, 1954, which Bentley ignored. We pointed out that Federal Judge Edwin P. Hunter of the Western District of Louisiana has indicated he is reluctant to cite Bentley for contempt and would not do so for a thirty-day period. We also attached with our memorandum of April 19, 1954, a copy of a memorandum prepared by Judge Hunter and furnished to Special Agent James S. Hamilton on April 12, 1954. We also attached a copy of a letter to Judge Hunter from Howard B. DeJuen, Jr., Attorney at Law, Opelousas, Louisiana, dated March 5, 1954.

The following additional developments have taken place in connection with this matter and are being brought to your attention pursuant to a request from Judge Hunter:

On May 7, 1954, Judge Hunter contacted an agent of our New Orleans Office and furnished Special Agent Hamilton a supplemental memorandum dated May 7, 1954, reflecting the results of an interview had by Judge Hunter with Miss Bentley at Lake Charles, Louisiana, on May 7, 1954. A copy of this memorandum is being attached for your information. Judge Hunter stated he is fully aware that Miss Bentley is not under the protective custody of the FBI and that the FBI is not responsible for her actions. He also commented that Miss Bentley undoubtedly has performed a great service to this country, and he is extremely reluctant to take any formal action to institute

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Gearty _____
- Mohr _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RJL:awn

MAILED 2

MAY 14 1954

COMM - FBI

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECEIVED MAY 13 5 46 PM '54

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

contempt proceedings against her, particularly if the plaintiffs in the libel suit are possibly Communists as Bentley alleges. He pointed out, however, that he could not permit Miss Bentley to continue to flaunt the authority of his court and in his opinion contempt proceedings against her will eventually become necessary. He pointed out that depositions are scheduled to be taken from Miss Bentley on May 17, 1954, but that Miss Bentley informed him on May 7, 1954, she intended to go to Washington and to consult with you on or about May 18, 1954.

Judge Hunter stated that he is apprehensive of the outcome of this matter inasmuch as he feels if Miss Bentley is cited for contempt, there will be widespread publicity, and noted that Miss Bentley has implied that he is a Communist. He stated that before citing Miss Bentley for contempt, he decided to consult with Judge Ben C. Dawkins, Senior Judge of the Western District of Louisiana. Judge Hunter requested that the information he has provided us concerning this matter be brought to your attention.

Elizabeth Bentley has also been in touch with our New Orleans Office on several occasions in connection with this matter, during which she has made allegations that she feels that the libel suit by William H. Taylor is a Communist plot against her. On May 8, 1954, she contacted the Special Agent in Charge of our New Orleans Office and demanded that she be given protection by the Department of Justice and the FBI. She made allegations that the "Long political machine of Louisiana" is intimidating and threatening her. She could provide no specific instances of intimidation or threats against her personal safety. She was informed that the Bureau would not like to see her do anything that might damage her reputation and possible future value as a Government witness but whether she responds to the subpoena in connection with this matter is a personal decision for her to make.

Our Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Office commented that at times Miss Bentley appeared to be irrational and illogical in her reasoning but at other points in the conversation appeared to be rational.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The foregoing information is being brought to your attention in order to afford you the background on this matter and in view of the statements by Miss Bentley that she intended to contact you in connection with the subpoena which has been served on her.

~~Attachment~~

cc 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III
(W/Attachment)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FD-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#-----

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, NEW ORLEANS

5-8-54

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

AIR TEL

REGISTERED

AIR MAIL

SPECIAL DELIVERY

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. MISS BENTLEY APPEARED AT NEW ORLEANS OFFICE TODAY AT WHICH TIME I INTERVIEWED HER FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD.

SHE STARTED OFF CONVERSATION BY "DEMANDING" THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MR. HOOVER PROVIDE HER IMMEDIATE PROTECTION AGAINST THE "LONG POLITICAL FACTION" IN LOUISIANA. SHE SPOKE IN RAMBLING GENERALITIES OF INTIMIDATIONS AND THREATS BUT WAS UNABLE TO SPECIFY ANY INSTANCE OR ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD MADE ANY STATEMENTS OR HAD TAKEN ANY ACTION WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS INTIMIDATION OR A THREAT TO HER PERSONAL SAFETY. CONTENDS EFFORTS TO HAVE HER APPEAR FOR DEPOSITION MAY 17 IS COMMUNIST PLOT COMBINED WITH CORRUPT LONG POLITICAL MACHINE IN LOUISIANA AND THAT SHE EXPECTS TO BE A "CORPSE" BEFORE LONG. "DEMANDED" THE FBI PROVIDE HER PROTECTION OUT OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AND TO WASHINGTON, D. C. THE BUREAU'S POSITION IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER WAS AGAIN CAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO HER AND SPECIFICALLY SHE WAS ADVISED THAT THE BUREAU WOULD NOT WANT HER TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS, BUT THAT THE SUBPOENA WHICH HAS BEEN SERVED ON HER IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. SHE WAS ADVISED SHE IS NOT TO CONSIDER HERSELF UNDER THE PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF THE FBI AND THAT THE FBI

HCB:bs
134-89

RECORDED-62

EX-129

134-435-109
(END PAGE ONE)

SENT DIRECTOR

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

(BEGIN PAGE TWO)

CANNOT AFFORD HER PROTECTION. MISS BENTLEY IS BECOMING AN INCREASING PROBLEM IN VIEW OF HER OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN REASONING AND EVALUATING INFORMATION. SHE CLAIMED TO ME THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD SAID THE SUBPOENA SERVED ON HER WAS ILLEGAL AND AFTER CONSIDERABLE QUESTIONING SHE CLAIMED SPECIAL AGENT OF THIS OFFICE HAD SO INFORMED HER. I KNEW THIS WAS NOT TRUE IN VIEW OF MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CASE AND IN VIEW OF MY CONVERSATIONS WITH AGENT WHO HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MISS BENTLEY OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. HOWEVER, I IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED THE AGENT WHO UNEQUIVOCALLY DENIED HAVING MADE SUCH STATEMENT AND BENTLEY THEN ADMITTED THAT SHE COULD HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN AS TO WHAT WAS SAID. BENTLEY'S CONVERSATION AT TIMES WAS RATIONAL BUT THE MAJORITY OF TIME SHE APPEARED IRRATIONAL AND ILLOGICAL AND HER TALK IMPRESSED ME AS BEING THAT OF A DEMENTED PERSON. THE FOREGOING IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

BOSWELL

END

RECEIVED
AND SUPERVISOR
DIVISION

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FBI, NEW ORLEANS

5-3-54

AIR TEL
REGISTERED
AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. MISS BENTLEY APPEARED AT NEW ORLEANS OFFICE TODAY AT WHICH TIME I INTERVIEWED HER FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD.

HE STARTED OFF COMPLAINING THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MR. ROYER WOULD NOT PROVIDE HIM WITH PROTECTION AGAINST THE "COMMUNIST ACTION" IN LOUISIANA. SHE WENT ON TALKING OF THREATS AND THREATS BUT WAS UNABLE TO SPECIFY ANY INSTANCE OR ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD MADE ANY STATEMENTS OR HAD TAKEN ANY ACTION WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED AS A THREAT TO HER PERSONAL SAFETY. SHE STATED HER EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PROTECTION FOR HERSELF AND HER CHILDREN MAY 17 IS CURRENTLY BEING HANDLED BY THE COMMUNIST LONG POLITICAL MACHINE IN LOUISIANA AND THAT SHE EXPECTS TO BE A "CONSOLE" BEFORE LONG. "DEMANDED" THE FBI PROVIDE HER PROTECTION OUT OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AND TO WASHINGTON, D. C. THE BUREAU'S POSITION IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER WAS MADE CLEARLY KNOWN TO HER AND ESPECIALLY SHE WAS ADVISED THAT THE BUREAU WOULD NOT ADVISE HER TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS A WITNESS, BUT THAT THE BUREAU WOULD BE GLAD TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR HER IS A MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. SHE WAS ADVISED SHE IS NOT TO CONSIDER HERSELF UNDER THE PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF THE FBI AND THAT THE FBI

HCB:bs
134-89

(END PAGE ONE)

*memo to the atty General
5/13/54*

(BEGIN PAGE TWO)

CANNOT AFFORD TO PROTECT. MISS BENTLEY IS PERMANENTLY IN REASONING PROBLEM IN VIEW OF HER OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN REASONING AND EVALUATING INFORMATION. SHE CLAIMED TO HEAR THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAD SAID THE SUBROGATION SERVICE OF HER WAS ILLEGAL AND AFTER CONSIDERABLE OBJECTION SHE CLAIMED OFFICIAL REPORT OF THIS OFFICE HAD BEEN ISSUED THAT IT WAS NOT TRUE IN VIEW OF MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CASE AND IN VIEW OF MY CONVERSATIONS WITH AGENT WHO HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MISS BENTLEY OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. HOWEVER, I IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED THE AGENT WHO UNEquivOCALLY DENIED THE PERSON'S STATEMENT AND FURTHER THAT SHE ADMITTED THAT SHE COULD HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN AS TO WHAT WAS SAID. BENTLEY'S CONVERSATION AT TIMES WAS RATIONAL BUT THE MAJORITY OF TIME SHE APPEARED IRRATIONAL AND ILLOGICAL AND HER TALK EXPRESSED HER AS BEING THAT OF A DELIGHTED PERSON. THE FOLLOWING IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

LOOSELY

END

ORIGINAL—DETROIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI NEW ORLEANS

5-7-54

A I R T E L

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

AMSD - REGISTERED

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. REBUAIRTEL 5/5/54 AND BUTEL 4/19/54. ON 4/21/54 MISS BENTLEY WAS ADVISED SHE SHOULD NOT INDICATE TO ANYONE SHE IS IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI. ALSO, WITH REFERENCE TO SUBPOENA, SHE WAS ADVISED BUREAU WOULD NOT WANT HER TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS GOVERNMENT WITNESS, BUT THIS WAS MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. BENTLEY WAS ADVISED THAT IN THIS MATTER AND OTHERS WHICH MIGHT ARISE SHE SHOULD NOT CONSIDER HERSELF TO BE UNDER PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI. BENTLEY COMMENTED THAT FBI HAD DONE A GREAT DEAL FOR HER AND SHE HAD ALSO DONE SAME FOR FBI. SHE SAID FBI WAS "THE ONLY ORGANIZATION LEFT IN THE GOVERNMENT THAT CAN'T BE BOUGHT AND I HAVE THE GREATEST ADMIRATION FOR THEM." ON 4/26/54 EDWIN F. HUNTER, FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE, WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, WAS CONTACTED AT LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA, AND WAS ADVISED THAT MISS BENTLEY WAS NOT IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI AND THAT MISS BENTLEY HAS BEEN INFORMED HER RESPONSE TO ANY SUBPOENA ISSUED TO HER BY USM OR JUDGE HUNTER'S COURT WAS MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. JUDGE HUNTER EXPRESSED

RFC:mas
134-89

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED

13 MAY 12 1954

Approved: HEB

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per

5-97

PAGE TWO

APPRECIATION FOR ABOVE INFORMATION AND STATED HE FELT THAT HERETO-
FORE MISS BENTLEY HAD BEEN "HIDING BEHIND THE CLOAK OF THE FBI"
BUT THAT POSSIBLE FUTURE CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO
TAKE ITS NATURAL COURSE. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT NO FURTHER
STEPS TO CITE MISS BENTLEY FOR CONTEMPT HAD BEEN TAKEN AT THAT
TIME.

BOSWELL

END

100-444444-1000

FBI NEW ORLEANS

5-7-54

A I R T E L

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

AMSD - REGISTERED

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. REBUAIRTEL 5/5/54 AND BUTEL 4/19/54. ON 4/21/54 MISS BENTLEY WAS ADVISED SHE SHOULD NOT INDICATE TO ANYONE SHE IS IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI. ALSO, WITH REFERENCE TO SUBPOENA, SHE WAS ADVISED BUREAU WOULD NOT WANT HER TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT DAMAGE HER REPUTATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE VALUE AS GOVERNMENT WITNESS, BUT THIS WAS MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. BENTLEY WAS ADVISED THAT IN THIS MATTER AND OTHERS WHICH MIGHT ARISE SHE SHOULD NOT CONSIDER HERSELF TO BE UNDER PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI. BENTLEY COMMENTED THAT FBI HAD DONE A GREAT DEAL FOR HER AND SHE HAD ALSO DONE SAME FOR FBI. SHE SAID FBI WAS "THE ONLY ORGANIZATION LEFT IN THE GOVERNMENT THAT CAN'T BE BOUGHT AND I HAVE THE GREATEST ADMIRATION FOR THEM." ON 4/26/54 EDWIN F. HUNTER, FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE, WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, WAS CONTACTED AT LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA, AND WAS ADVISED THAT MISS BENTLEY WAS NOT IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF FBI AND THAT MISS BENTLEY HAS BEEN INFORMED HER RESPONSE TO ANY SUBPOENA ISSUED TO HER BY USM OR JUDGE HUNTER'S COURT WAS MATTER FOR HER PERSONAL DECISION. JUDGE HUNTER EXPRESSED

RFC:mas
134-89

PAGE TWO

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BUT THAT POSSIBLE FUTURE CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO
TAKE ITS NATURAL COURSE. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT NO FURTHER
STEPS TO CITE MISS BENTLEY FOR CONTEMPT HAD BEEN TAKEN AT THAT
TIME.

ROSWELL

END

ORIGINAL—DISTRICT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

O : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: May 12, 1954

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Tolson ✓
 Ladd ✓
 Nichols ✓
 Belmont ✓
 Clegg ✓
 Glavin ✓
 Harbo ✓
 Rosen ✓
 Tracy ✓
 Mohr ✓
 Tamm ✓
 Winterrowd ✓
 Tele. Room ✓
 Holloman ✓
 Miss Gandy ✓

George Sokolsky called me on May 11th and stated Elizabeth Bentley had just called him from down in Louisiana. She is very much disturbed over the subpoena she has received to give a deposition in the office of a local lawyer in Louisiana in the libel suit brought by William H. Taylor against the Scripps Howard papers. She was asking George's advice. She told him she did not mind giving the testimony but she did not want to give it in the form of a deposition and would prefer to give it in court in view of a local situation down there.

George was wondering if we knew anything about the situation and what could be done. I told George we had heard that Taylor had had her served with a subpoena, which she had disregarded, and that another subpoena was to be issued, which it apparently had been; that if she simply did not want to testify, if her testimony was already on record, that, of course, there was nothing we could do, but that if she had any question, certainly she ought to confer with counsel as the disregarding of a subpoena could have serious consequences.

cc: Mr. Boardman
 Mr. Belmont

LBN:MP

RECORDED - 6
 INDEXED - 6

134-435-111

LAM [Signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)
 FROM : SAC, New Orleans (134-89)
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
 SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: 5-7-54

Re New Orleans letter to Bureau 4-28-54.

On the night of April 28, 1954, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY telephoned the Resident Agent at Lafayette, La., and advised she had a matter which she desired to discuss with him. On the morning of 4-29-54 SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT contacted Miss BENTLEY at Grand Coteau, La., at which time she proceeded to rehash the information which appears in referenced letter. She stated she believed that the action on the part of WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR was being backed and sanctioned by the CP and that the whole affair was Communist inspired and that the subpoena for her to appear before a private attorney in Opelousas was action being taken by the CP in order to force her out into the open in order that a libel suit could be filed against her. She stated that this is the method of the Communists in getting revenge on an ex-Communist member.

Miss BENTLEY stated that in her opinion there should be some way of protecting a person who is assisting and has assisted the U. S. Government and who in the future will continue to assist them against any such Communist attacks. She stated she does not intend to stay at the Sacred Heart College at Grand Coteau, La., another year and teach school unless she could get some type of protection from someone or some organization.

As in the past, the Bureau's position in such matters was specifically explained to Miss BENTLEY and she was specifically advised that this Bureau was not in a position to offer any type of protection to her in view of the fact that she was merely a private citizen and was not under any type of subpoena as a witness for the Federal Government.

REGISTERED

EX-107

JBH:art

134-435-112

RECORDED-52

New Haven
New York
New Orleans
WFO
5/17/54

[Signature]

Miss BENTLEY was again informed that in connection with the subpoena for her to appear before Mr. HOWARD B. DEJEAN, Opelousas, La., on 5-17-54, that it was a personal matter of hers and a matter she would have to decide for herself, that the Bureau was not in a position to offer any advice in this connection. It was suggested to Miss BENTLEY that possibly she might want to hire an attorney to look after her interests and she commented that she had no money to hire an attorney and furthermore, knew no attorney in the area whom she could trust. She asked the agent to recommend an attorney which was certainly not done.

On the evening of April 30, 1954, Miss BENTLEY again contacted the Resident Agent in Lafayette and advised that on the afternoon of April 29, 1954, she received a telephone call from a Mr. BROUSSARD, who identified himself with the Daily World, a local newspaper in Opelousas, and inquired of Miss BENTLEY as to whether or not she had been contacted by DEJEAN during the week for the purpose of him taking a deposition. According to Miss BENTLEY, she informed BROUSSARD he should contact Mr. HOWARD B. DEJEAN himself, if he desired that information. Miss BENTLEY stated that this was another instance wherein she was being intimidated or terrorized for her failure to appear at Opelousas to give a deposition.

Miss BENTLEY advised that to further substantiate her statement that she is being terrorized and that the college where she is teaching is also suffering from such terrorism, she stated that on the night of 4-29-54 at 10:30 P.M. persons unknown entered the library of the college and from there on into the general halls and dormitories and ransacked the place, slamming doors, rattling coke bottles, and in general terrorized a number of students who were residing in the dormitory.

Miss BENTLEY was specifically informed that this was a matter for the local authorities to handle if she

believed someone had broken into the college; however, in talking to her, she had no specific information regarding any damage or any loss to the college. Miss BENTLEY advised that she is under the belief that the local authorities in St. Landry Parish are also behind HOWARD B. DEJEAN and she could expect no assistance from those individuals. It was pointed out to Miss BENTLEY that notwithstanding the fact she did not trust the local authorities, this Bureau had no jurisdiction in such matters and would not be able to conduct any investigation in the absence of facts to substantiate a Federal violation.

In talking with Miss BENTLEY in recent months, particularly since the occasion arose wherein she was supposed to have appeared in Opelousas, La., to give a deposition, it is noted that she is attempting to apply enough pressure on the Bureau in order to get the Bureau to offer some sort of protection or guidance to her. It has been noted that from interviews with Miss BENTLEY, it is apparent that a lot of the instances which she has related to agents of the Bureau are merely figments of her imagination and she is merely trying to apply pressure on the Bureau to get them to intervene on behalf of her so she will not have to appear and give a deposition in the case entitled WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, vs. Washington News.

On several occasions, Miss BENTLEY has been advised that the Bureau is in no position to give her guidance or counsel and any action she takes in connection with the subpoena which she has received is entirely up to her and she will have to make the decision as to what action she will take. Miss BENTLEY has advised that regardless of what position the FBI takes, she intends to write to Attorney General BROWNELL and also to SENATOR KARL MUNDT of the Senate Investigative Sub-Committee and explain to them her position and request some protection.

She has advised that she does not intend to embarrass the Bureau in any way whatsoever; however, if she continues her tactics it is believed that eventually she will embarrass the Bureau in connection with her actions and statements.

NO #134-89

This office has received a large number of requests to contact Miss BENTLEY for the purpose of verifying information she has previously furnished. The number of contacts with her for this purpose coupled with her current problems suggest the desirability of limiting interviews with her to a minimum. While she has been entirely cooperative, it seems that some offices are routinely requesting that she be interviewed regarding matters which have previously been covered in interviews with her and I can recall no instances in which she has been able to furnish supplemental material to that given on initial interviews regarding particular cases. If the Bureau feels such action would be desirable, it is the suggestion of the New Orleans Division that the offices having the most espionage work be advised to carefully analyze the requests sent for reinterview of Miss BENTLEY and keep such interviews to an absolute minimum.

Miss BENTLEY advised on 4-30-54 that she plans to leave Grand Coteau, La., around May 27, 1954, to go to her home in Connecticut and at the present time she does not know whether she will return because she states that the officials of the college are getting fed up with the unfavorable publicity they have received as a result of her being there, which she states has all stemmed from the WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR case.

HAC, New Haven

May 18, 1954

Director, FBI (154-435)

RECORDED-42

134-435-112

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY MATTER

For the information of the New Haven, New York, and Washington Field Offices, there is being attached hereto a copy of a memorandum from New Orleans dated May 7, 1954, which deals with the present attitude and mental condition of Elizabeth T. Bentley. The background of this matter is as follows:

Elizabeth T. Bentley, who is teaching at the College of Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, was served with a subpoena on February 8, 1954, to give a deposition in connection with a civil libel suit by William H. Taylor against the "Washington Daily News." Miss Bentley did not respond to the subpoena and a second subpoena was issued on April 8, 1954, which Bentley ignored. Federal Judge Edwin F. Hunter of the Eastern District of Louisiana has been in contact with our New Orleans Office and has indicated that he is reluctant to cite Miss Bentley for contempt but will not allow her to flout the authority of his court. Miss Bentley has made allegations that the civil libel suit by Taylor is a Communist plot to harass her and has even inferred that Judge Hunter is being used by the Communists. In contacts with our agents, Miss Bentley has indicated that she is mentally disturbed by this matter.

You will note in the attached letter from the New Orleans Office that Bentley intends to leave Grand Coteau, Louisiana, on or about May 27, 1954, for her home in Madison, Connecticut. In view of this, requests for interviews of Bentley after May 27, 1954, should be directed to the New Haven Office. There will be no objection for agents of the New York Office, who have previously maintained contact with Bentley, to interview her on matters which are of importance in connection with investigations being handled by the New York Office. In such situations, however, which should be

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Attachment

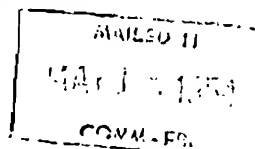
cc 2 - New York (65-14603) (Attachment)

cc 2 - New Orleans (134-49) (Attachment)

cc 2 - Washington Field (Attachment)

RJL:awn

:mrh



Kept to a minimum, the New Haven Office should be advised by the contemplated interview. In accordance with the recommendation made by the New Orleans Office, leads to interview entley for the time being should be restricted to cases where it is believed she will have definite information of value, and she should not be interviewed indiscriminately in cases where there is no information indicative of the fact that she would know of the matter under consideration.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (REGISTERED-AM)

DATE: May 22, 1954

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

G.I.R.-6

On May 20, 1954, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY advised the Resident Agent at Lafayette, Louisiana, that she will leave Grand Coteau, Louisiana, on May 21, 1954, enroute to Madison, Connecticut, where she can be reached in care of Mrs. GEORGE POIROT, Route 1, Madison. She stated that Mrs. POIROT resides on Lovers Lane and has a telephone, but she did not recall the number.

BENTLEY stated that she expects to take about a week to drive through and that she would probably contact the New York Office enroute to Connecticut.

BENTLEY advised that she will be in Madison for only a short time and plans to go to Columbia University to see about making some contacts to attend summer school there to work on her doctor's degree.

The above is being furnished in order that leads to interview BENTLEY can be directed to the New Haven Office for the time being.

JBH:js

1 cc: New Haven (REGISTERED-AM)
New York (REGISTERED-AM)
Newark (REGISTERED-AM)
Washington Field (REGISTERED-AM)

REGISTERED MAILAIRMAIL

RECORDED - 51

134-435-113

EX-123

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW YORK, N.Y.
5/28/54

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. RE NEW ORLEANS LETTER 5/22/54.
ON 5/27/54 MISS BENTLEY CONTACTED NYO AND ADVISED SHE WAS THEN ENROUTE TO
MADISON, CONN. WHERE SHE EXPECTS TO BE AT RESIDENCE OF MRS. GEORGE POIROT
AS MENTIONED IN RHLET. SHE STATED SHE CONTEMPLATES PASSING THROUGH NY
LATTER PART OF NEXT WEEK AND INDICATED SHE MAY BE ON WAY TO MILWAUKEE FOR
PURPOSE AND DURATION NOT STATED. NEW HAVEN REQUESTED TO CONTACT MISS
BENTLEY AND ENDEAVOR TO ASCERTAIN HER PLANS FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

KELLY

3 - BUREAU (134-235)
1 - NEW HAVEN

RECORDED-45

134-435-114

LOG:EG
134-182

Approved:
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per

FD-36
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Winterrowd
Mr. Nease
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Gandy

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____

NEW YORK, N.Y.
5/28/54

AIR-TEL

BUREAU

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. RE NEW ORLEANS LETTER 5/22/54.
ON 5/27/54 MISS BENTLEY CONTACTED NYO AND ADVISED SHE WAS THEN ENROUTE TO
MADISON, CONN. WHERE SHE EXPECTS TO BE AT RESIDENCE OF MRS. GEORGE POIROT
AS MENTIONED IN REPORT. SHE STATED SHE CONTEMPLATES PASSING THROUGH NY
LATTER PART OF NEXT WEEK AND INDICATED SHE MAY BE ON WAY TO MILWAUKEE FOR
PURPOSES AND DURATION NOT STATED. NEW HAVEN REQUESTED TO CONTACT MISS
BENTLEY AND ENDEAVOR TO ASCERTAIN HER PLANS FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

BAIRD/GEORGE

KELLY

3 - BUREAU (134-235)
1 - NEW HAVEN

LOG:EG
134-182

Director, FBI (100-410330)

6-6-54

SAC, New Orleans (100-15457)(134-89)

OSCAR SYDNEY COX, wa.

RM-C

Rebulet to Washington Field 5-17-54, same requesting Washington Field to furnish New Orleans with background data and a photograph of COX in order that ELIZABETH BENTLEY might be interviewed in this matter.

By Washington Field letter 5-22-54 a photograph of COX and background information concerning him were furnished to New Orleans for the purpose of interviewing BENTLEY.

By New Orleans letter dated 5-22-54 entitled ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT, Washington Field, Newark, New York, New Haven, and the Bureau were advised that Miss BENTLEY left Grand Coteau, Louisiana, on May 21, 1954, en route to Madison, Conn., where she can be reached in care of Mrs. GEORGE-FERIST, Route 1, Madison, Conn. Miss BENTLEY stated that Mrs. FERIST resides on Lovers Lane and has a telephone but she did not recall the number. BENTLEY stated she expected to take about a week to drive through and she would probably contact the New York Office en route to Conn. BENTLEY advised she will be in Madison for only a short time and plans to go to Columbia University in New York to see about making contacts to attend summer school there to work on her Doctor's degree.

Inasmuch as BENTLEY is now in Madison, Conn., the following pertinent serials are furnished to New Haven with the request that BENTLEY be interviewed in accordance with Bureau instructions:

Letter to NY 5-17-54

NYO let to Bureau 5-22-54

Report of SA LYMAN G. HAILEY, 4-14-54, Washington, D.C.
2 photos of subject, OSCAR SYDNEY COX

Copies of this letter have been designated for the Bureau and the offices indicated in view of the fact that they may have occasion to interview BENTLEY. RAL
REGISTERED

cc-Washington Field (100-29200) (REG)

cc-New Haven (enc) (REG)

cc-New York (info) (REG)

cc-Newark (info) (REG)

WFO:RAL

INDEXED - 134-435-115
NOT RECORDED
155 JUN 8 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 6/1/54

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

On May 20, 1954 during an interview with Miss BENTLEY, she advised that on May 17, 1954 she appeared at the office of Attorney HOWARD DeJEAN, Opelousas, Louisiana with two attorneys from New Orleans, Louisiana. She advised that WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR was present with his attorney, BYRON C. SCOTT. Also present were two attorneys who represented the Washington Daily News.

BENTLEY advised that it was agreed between the Attorney that the taking of her deposition be postponed until July 26, 1954 and that the proceedings would be transferred to Washington, D. C. on that date.

BENTLEY stated that during the meeting at Opelousas, Louisiana on May 17, 1954 she learned that the basis of the suit of TAYLOR against the Washington Daily News was the testimony given in November, 1953 by Director HOOVER and Mr. BROWNELL in connection with the HARRY DEXTER WHITE case. She stated that the Washington Daily News ran a paraphrase story of the testimony given by Mr. HOOVER and Mr. BROWNELL, in which the name of TAYLOR was mentioned, and this was the basis of his suit against the paper. She stated that it was further evident to her that TAYLOR was on a fishing expedition to try to find out what she had told the FBI concerning him, TAYLOR, and the Communist Party activities and members whom she has been acquainted.

The above is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

REGISTERED MAIL

JBH:dfs

RECORDED-14

INDEXED-14

134-435-116

212

DIRECTOR, FBI

6/1/54

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

On May 20, 1954 during an interview with Miss BENTLEY, she advised that on May 17, 1954 she appeared at the office of Attorney HOWARD DeJEAN, Opelousas, Louisiana with two attorneys from New Orleans, Louisiana. She advised that WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR was present with his attorney, BYRON C. SCOTT. Also present were two attorneys who represented the Washington Daily News.

BENTLEY advised that it was agreed between the Attorney that the taking of her deposition be postponed until July 26, 1954 and that the proceedings would be transferred to Washington, D. C. on that date.

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The above is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

REGISTERED MAIL

JBH:dfs

[Handwritten signature and initials]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont

DATE: June 10, 1954

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Harbo _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Gearty _____
 Mohr _____
 Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
 Miss Gandy _____

New Orleans letter of 6-1-54 advised Bentley furnished the following on 5-20-54. During a meeting on 5-17-54, at the office of Attorney Howard De Jean, Opelousas, Louisiana, she learned the basis of the libel suit of William Henry Taylor against the Washington Daily News was the testimony given in 11-53 by the Director and the Attorney General in connection with the Harry Dexter White case. She said the Washington Daily News ran a paraphrase story of the testimony in which the name of Taylor was mentioned, and this was the basis of his suit against the paper.

The article which was the basis of the suit by Taylor was written by Chester Potter and appeared in the Washington Daily News on 11-20-53. It was captioned "White Aide Holds Monetary Fund Post, Taylor is Under Loyalty Probe." Neither the Director nor the Attorney General are mentioned in this article.

On 2-5-54, Potter furnished a copy of a 97-page deposition taken from Taylor on 12-19-53 ~~and~~ Mark F. Friedlander, attorney for the Washington Daily News. In addition to the deposition, Potter also furnished a Photostat of a 5-page memo concerning the libel suit of Taylor. This memo is not identified beyond the name Potter appearing on page 1 and on page 5. It appears this memo was prepared by Potter for his superiors at the Washington Daily News. In this memo it was stated that "Mr. Taylor's stated grounds for libel are that the News published, under the heading 'Taylor Is Under Loyalty Probe,' the following 'false, scandalous and defamatory' libel: 'Twice, Treasury Secretaries have sought to have him (meaning the plaintiff) removed from his Monetary Fund post because his (meaning the plaintiff) name had appeared as an associate of White (meaning Harry Dexter White) in the FBI 'Red Round-up' in November, 1945, (meaning the letters referred to in

134-435

cc: 138-348

cc: 100-370362

RGJ:gks

RECORDED-52 134-435-117

JUN 17 1954

the testimony of Herbert Brownell before the Senate Internal Security Committee in Washington, D. C., on November 17, 1953), and 'he (meaning the plaintiff) said Silvermaster (meaning Nathan Gregory Silvermaster) recommended him (meaning the plaintiff) to White (meaning Harry Dexter White) as a prospective employe of the Treasury Department in 1941.' Further, the libel suit says that 'the foregoing was meant and intended to convey that plaintiff was named as an associate of Harry Dexter White in reports made by the FBI to the President of the United States in November, 1945...'"

On the basis of information available to the Bureau, it would appear Bentley is in error when she states the basis of the libel suit of Taylor against the News was the testimony of the Director and the Attorney General in the White case in November, 1953. There is, however, little doubt that the widespread publicity given to this testimony of the Director and the Attorney General on 11-17-53 could lead to this error on the part of Bentley.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For your information.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson____
Mr. Boardman____
Mr. Nichols____
Mr. Belmont____
Mr. Harbo____
Mr. Mohr____
Mr. Rosen____
Mr. Tamm____
Mr. Winterrowd____
Tele. Room____
Mr. Holloman____
Miss Gandy____

NEW HAVEN Pa CONN

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to: DIRECTOR, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. RE NY AIRTEL
5/28/54. MISS BENTLEY, WHO APPEARED TO BE IN A CALM AND
CONGENIAL STATE OF MIND, WAS INTERVIEWED AT RESIDENCE OF
MRS. GEORGE POIROT, LOVERS LANE, MADISON, CONN., AND
ADVISED THAT SHE PLANS TO RESIDE AT ABOVE MADISON RESIDENCE
ALL SUMMER AND WILL COMMUTE SEVERAL DAYS A WEEK TO COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY, NYC, WHERE SHE IS WORKING ON HER PH.D. THESIS.

CASPER

SFD:MD
134-40

cc: New York (134-182)

RECORDED - 24

134-435-117X

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/14-18, 21/54	REPORT MADE BY THOMAS A. MENDENHALL dgt
TITLE DUNCAN CHAPLIN LEE, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information in ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY's book, "Out of Bondage," concerning DUNCAN CHAPLIN LEE is herein compared with information previously furnished by her concerning him.

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

There is being set forth hereinunder information relating to DUNCAN CHAPLIN LEE as set out in ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY's book, "Out of Bondage," published in 1951 by the Devin-Adair Company, together with information previously furnished by her concerning LEE for the purpose of comparison.

Out of Bondage
Page 181-182

DECLASSIFIED BY 226

ON 1-23-78

"Besides serving these useful functions, MARY brought into our apparatus one of our most important agents - DUNCAN C. LEE, a direct descendant of General ROBERT E. LEE. Born in China of missionary parents, educated first over there and then in the United States and England, he became a brilliant

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
		ENCLOSURE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		134-435	
6 - Bureau (100-364413)		JUL 20 1954	
(1- 134-435)			
3 - New York (100-96630)(RM)			
(1- 65-11603)			
2 - New Haven (65-1480)(RM)			
1 - Los Angeles (65-5241)(RM)(Info)			
1 - San Francisco (65-4353)(RM)(Info)			
3 - Washington Field (100-20518)			

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young lawyer and worked for "Wild BILL" DONOVAN's law firm in New York City. He had been a member of the Party for some time, and when we first heard of him, he was attached to the Communist group that functioned within the Institute of Pacific Relations.

"In the early summer DUNCAN took a position as a confidential assistant to General DONOVAN, then head of the O.S.S. He and his red-haired, Scottish-born wife ISHBEL moved down to Washington. YASHA and I briefly considered my contacting him. MARY, however, vetoed the suggestion, saying that he was so high-strung and nervous that the sight of a stranger would send him into a state of panic.

"What does he look like?' I remember asking her.

"Nothing outstanding,' she said thoughtfully. 'Average height, medium-brown hair and light eyes, glasses, rather studious looking. He's a good person, only he's never before been mixed up in this sort of thing.'

"I looked at her sharply, wondering if she herself knew just whom she was working for. I had taken pains enough to keep her in complete ignorance, even though I did trust her sufficiently to give her my telephone number in New York. Whatever her surmises, however, they did not seem to affect her attitude, for she continued to carry on her duties imperturbably. During the summer and fall of 1942 she was my intermediary with DUNCAN, bringing him Communist literature and collecting his Party dues. Besides which, MARY brought him instructions from us and collected his information. His wife, being a British subject, was not at that time a member, due to the American Communist Party's policy in those years of not accepting aliens for membership.

"His material at that point, while valuable, was meager. He would only give MARY small bits of information orally, making her promise she would not write it down but would carry it in her head. Since a Communist does not regard his promise as anything sacred--except, of course, when it is made to his superior in the Party--MARY would memorize the data and then rush home to write it down in shorthand. Nevertheless, this procedure was hazardous, because there was always the chance she might not remember

the information correctly. We tried to get MARY to change DUNCAN's attitude, but unfortunately she was still 'green' at the espionage business and had great difficulty in handling people. The Russian Secret Police were becoming more and more impatient and it was arranged that I contact DUNCAN instead. He was one of the most nervous people with whom I had to deal. His innate fear had been greatly heightened by the 'cloak-and-dagger' attitude that was then rampant in the O.S.S. He was unwilling to have me telephone him, for he was convinced that his phone might be tapped. He sat quite close to me in the living room and almost whispered his information for fear that the walls might have ears. Moreover, although I succeeded in getting from him more and better information than had MARY, he almost always gave it to me orally and rarely would he give me a document, although under pressure he would hand over scraps of paper on which he had written down important data."

Out of Bondage
Page 193-195

"Meanwhile, MARY PRICE had decided she wanted to give up her position with WALTER LIPPMANN. YASHA and I tried to convince her that she should stay, but it became increasingly obvious that she was cracking up. Finally it was decided that she resign and go to Mexico for the summer to get her health back. We arranged to keep in touch with her through her sister MILDRED (Mrs. HAROLD COY), executive head of the pro-Communist China Aid Council. At first, YASHA and I regarded MILDRED merely as an intermediary with MARY, but soon we discovered she would be a valuable adjunct to our apparatus in her own right. She was at that time, he told me, the organizer of the Communist unit which functioned in the Institute of Pacific Relations--a foundation for Far Eastern studies which had originally been set up by well-meaning philanthropists but which had long since fallen under the domination of the Communists. The organization, because of its respectable past and high-sounding title, had been able to enroll in its ranks a vast number of 'innocents,' among them professors and businessmen who were interested in Pacific affairs. Hence it had, he explained to me, become the center of all Communist activity in the Far Eastern field, offering

a protective covering to a number of smaller, more obviously pro-Communist enterprises that clustered around it. Among these were the China Aid Council, of which MILDRED was executive secretary, and the magazines 'China Today' and 'Amerasia.'

"The Communist group in the Institute of Pacific Relations, which he told me was made up of every Party member in the Far Eastern field--regardless of what organization he was attached to--was set up in a very special way. Instead of being attached to a geographical section headquarters, as was the case with most units, it was handled directly by FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD, who in turn was responsible directly to EARL BROWDER. This arrangement was made necessary because the work that the cell was doing was so secret and so valuable that it had to be protected from any leaks. In actual fact, however, this set-up was pathetically inadequate to protect the activities of the group, as YASHA pointed out to me.

"It's a hang-over from the days when we didn't operate properly,' he said disgustedly. 'At that time all undercover work was routed via the Party. Now we know enough to have our agents directly in contact with the Russians.'

"What are they doing?' I asked interestedly.

"Getting Party members and sympathizers into the United States government where they can be of use to us,' he said. 'They've already done pretty well along this line. They've placed several good solid people in jobs where they can effectively influence American policy on the Far East in a pro-Soviet direction, and I understand they are collecting good information that is being relayed to our friends via BROWDER. The only thing that bothers me is that they're operating so indiscreetly. It's an open secret that the Institute of Pacific Relations is red as the rose. Moreover, with that clumsy set-up, it will be a miracle if the F.B.I. doesn't trip over them sooner or later.'

"Are we going to take them on?' I asked.

"'Certainly not!' he answered. 'I wouldn't touch them with a ten-foot pole. But they might be a valuable source of agents for us. We got DUNCAN LEE from the group and there may be others there that haven't yet been too tarred with the red brush. Keep in touch with MILDRED and find out if she knows anyone in there that we could use.'

"I was still curious about the I.P.R. group. 'But why, if it is operating in such a dangerous fashion, doesn't someone do something about the situation?'

"He looked at me despondently. 'I don't know. Sometimes I don't understand what is going on in Moscow. Things seem to have changed since my days. The old crowd no longer seems to be in charge, and the new ones are very different.'"

On November 30, 1945, Miss ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY furnished a signed statement to SAS THOMAS G. SPENCER and JOSEPH M. KELLY in New York City. Miss BENTLEY in this statement advised that another individual with whom she became acquainted during the latter part of 1942 was Major DUNCAN LEE. She stated that her first knowledge of him came from a remark by MARY PRICE, another of her Soviet espionage contacts, in New York City in 1942 to the effect that she, PRICE, was attending a party in New York City given by DUNCAN LEE, a friend of PRICE's sister, MILDRED PRICE.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY recalled that at that time LEE, who was a law graduate of either Yale or Harvard, was associated with General DONOVAN's law firm in New York City. By way of background Miss BENTLEY advised that LEE was born in China, the son of an American missionary, and was a descendant of General ROBERT E. LEE. She also recalled that LEE attended either Oxford or Cambridge University in England where he became acquainted with his wife, ISHBEL, who was a Scottish girl.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY recalled that while in New York City practicing law, LEE had become identified with various organizations interested in the Far East, such as the Institute of Pacific Relations, and that it was probably through his activities in this regard that he met MILDRED PRICE.

Miss BENTLEY in her statement of November 30, 1945, advised that in 1942 MARY PRICE mentioned to JACOB GOLOS, her Soviet superior, that LEE was going to Washington, D. C., with General DONOVAN in

O.S.S. and PRICE asked GOLOS if he were interested in LEE. She stated that GOLOS replied that of course he was and delegated PRICE to handle him. Miss BENTLEY stated that PRICE did proceed to take care of LEE who was given an Army commission directly upon entering O.S.S., but his contributions were not particularly voluminous or valuable and GOLOS decided it would be better if she, Miss BENTLEY, were to meet LEE and determine exactly the nature of his duties and the type of information coming to his attention in O.S.S. Miss BENTLEY stated that accordingly, through arrangements made by MARY PRICE she met LEE in Washington and he told her he was in an advisory capacity to General DONOVAN, and it was apparent to her that he was cognizant of most of the material directed to General DONOVAN's attention.

As reflected in a record of "Hearing Regarding Communist Espionage in the United States Government" before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948 on page 725, Miss BENTLEY on August 10, 1948, testified that in May or June, 1942, MARY PRICE informed her and GOLOS that LEE was being transferred to Washington, D. C., and felt he would be a good contact for them. Miss BENTLEY testified that she told MARY PRICE to have LEE disconnected from the Party in New York City and when he came to Washington, he should contact Miss PRICE and keep in contact with her.

Miss BENTLEY testified that PRICE continued to contact LEE until she became ill with virus pneumonia in about December, 1942, at which time she came to New York City where she remained ill for two or three months. Miss BENTLEY stated that since PRICE could not contact LEE, she herself went to Washington on one of her trips, walked up to LEE's apartment on the fourth floor of what she believed was 3014 Dent Place and introduced herself as "HELEN". She stated that LEE had previously been told by PRICE who she was, and that this was the first time she saw him.

On Page 529 of her testimony before the HCUA in 1948 Miss BENTLEY testified on July 31, 1948, that LEE was a member of the Institute of Pacific Relations in New York and through that organization he knew MILDRED PRICE, who was MARY PRICE's sister. She testified that when DUNCAN LEE was sent down to Washington to join the O.S.S., MARY came to them (BENTLEY and GOLOS) told them about him, and said that they were to take him on. She testified that PRICE took care of him for awhile and then the latter left Washington at which time she, BENTLEY, took him over at that point.

On page 530 of the Hearings, Miss BENTLEY testified on July 31, 1948, concerning how she had first met LEE. She stated: "Well, he had been dealing with MARY. He knew MARY personally, you see, through her sister, and MARY had told him about me, and the name I have gone by, which was HELEN, and I just walked into his apartment and said, 'I am HELEN,' and spoke about things that only the two of us would know, and that is how we made our contact."

In testimony before the HCUA as reflected on page 731 of the report of the Hearings, Miss BENTLEY testified: "I knocked on the door, Mr. LEE opened it, and I said, 'Good evening DUNCAN, this is HELEN. I think MARY PRICE has told you about me.' He said, 'Yes,' and asked me to come in."

In the hearing before the HCUA on July 31, 1948, as reflected on page 529 of the report of the hearing Miss BENTLEY was asked whether LEE was a Communist and she replied: "Yes."

In testimony before the HCUA as reflected on page 730 of the record of the hearing Miss BENTLEY testified on August 10, 1948, that MARY PRICE was the first one to tell her that LEE was a member of the Communist Party.

In testimony before the HCUA on August 10, 1948, page 729, Miss BENTLEY testified that she brought LEE Communist literature and collected his Communist Party dues. She testified she was told he was a member in New York and that he was made a member at large in charge of MARY PRICE. She testified that she had never seen his Party Card, but had every reason to believe he was (a member of the Communist Party).

In her testimony before the HCUA on August 10, 1948, page 729, she stated that she collected LEE's Party dues from him where ever she happened to meet him--in his apartment or on the street sometimes, or at his house.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY advised that for the most part LEE seemed to be supplying information which in his judgment would be of value, and it was on infrequent occasions that she, at the request of GOLOS, requested him to obtain information on specific matters.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY stated it was her impression at that time (1942-43) that LEE, who had been a Communist Party member in New York City, was of the impression that

the information he had been giving MARY PRICE was being delivered to EARL BROWDER, at that time National Secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, but in subsequent conversations and from remarks which came to her attention later as having been made by LEE, she believed that after a while LEE realized that such information was actually destined for Russian intelligence.

Miss BENTLEY testified on August 10, 1948, that she thought in the beginning of her contacts with LEE, he did not know she was a Soviet agent, but rather that it was his understanding that he was passing information to her just for the use of the Communist Party. As reflected on page 732 of the hearings, she stated that in 1944 LEE did not indicate that he thought she was a Soviet agent, but did indicate he thought she was a Communist.

As reflected on page 729 of the hearings, Miss BENTLEY testified on August 10, 1948, before the HCUA that she imagined that from the spring of 1944, LEE knew she was both a Communist and a Russian agent. She stated: "I imagined so, because that was apropos of that proposed transfer between .KVD and the OSS, and I remember he was quite frightened because he said, 'If they come over here, they will come up to my house, knock on the door, shake my hand, and say, "Comrade, well done".'"

Miss BENTLEY testified on August 10, 1948, page 729, that she remembered this distinctly and that it gave her the impression that he did believe she was (a Russian agent) and he got very nervous during that period. She testified that it was impossible to see him sometimes and that finally LEE's wife arranged a meeting for the three of them toward the summer, she thought, of 1944, and asked her point blank if this was going to Russia or if it was going to the Communist Party, and she said it was going to EARL BROWDER.

On August 10, 1948, Miss BENTLEY testified before the HCUA, page 728, that LEE knew all along that she was a Communist. She further stated that there was a stage when he suspected she was a Soviet agent.

Miss BENTLEY on August 10, 1948, page 732, testified that she did not know how she could have impressed him as not being a Communist, adding that she still did not think at the beginning he knew she was a Soviet agent. She testified that he (at first) was passing this (information) on just for the purposes of the Communist Party, but that she believed that LEE later on did have a question in his mind, as she had explained.

On August 10, 1948, she testified, page 729, that she would place it as the spring of 1944 that LEE became suspicious that she was a Soviet agent. She added: "I mean, obviously so. I don't know what he thought before that." She testified that he gave no indication before that that he thought she was a Soviet agent.

On April 24, 1951, Miss BENTLEY was interviewed by SAS LESTER O. GALLAHER and FRANCIS W. ZANGLE of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. At the time of this interview she stated that LEE was under the impression that information which he had been giving to MARY PRICE was being delivered to EARL BROWDER. She stated that LEE had been under this impression because he had been told that the information was being furnished to BROWDER. She again stated that she believed that subsequently LEE came to realize that information he was furnishing was going to the Russians. She stated that she came to this conclusion because of various incidents and remarks which appeared to indicate that LEE was aware that information he was furnishing was going to the Russians. She again cited the proposal of General DONOVAN for the exchange of OSS and NKVD agents and LEE's fear that if the NKVD agents did come to this country, they would attempt to contact him personally and thus jeopardize his position. In this connection she also stated that sometime in the latter part of 1944 MOLOTOV, or some other Russian official, had made a speech in which reference was made to information which LEE believed was information he had furnished to her. She stated that she believed the information referred to was material given her by LEE to the effect that OSS was in contact with dissident elements in countries within the Soviet Orbit. (She believed these were Rumania, Bulgaria, or Yugoslavia.) Her recollection of this material was that it concerned democratic elements in these countries which had made overtures through their underground channels in Switzerland, who in turn contacted OSS to discuss whether or not the United States would assist these elements in obtaining leadership in these countries during the post war period.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY stated that LEE's wife, ISHBEL, had also been a Communist Party member in New York City, and she recalled that at that time Mrs. LEE was considering seeking United States citizenship and was somewhat apprehensive of the possibility that an investigation of her past activities might reveal her Party affiliations and would reflect upon her husband. Miss BENTLEY stated that on most of the occasions that she visited LEE at his home and on the street, it was arranged that they would meet alone, and the only other person present was his wife.

On April 21, 1951, Miss BENTLEY was interviewed by SAS LESTER O. GALLAHER and FRANCIS W. ZANGLE. At this time a discussion was had with Miss BENTLY as to the basis for her statements concerning her beliefs that ISHBEL LEE had been a Communist Party member in New York City. Miss BENTLEY stated she was not too clear as to how this knowledge came to her attention. She advised that she was under the impression that LEE had told her that his wife had been a Communist Party member until the time when the Party no longer enrolled members who were aliens. She stated that she also believed that ISHBEL LEE had been a member of various Communist front organizations in Washington, D. C., but she was unable to state what these organizations were. Miss BENTLEY at this time advised that she had collected dues from DUNCAN LEE while she was contacting him in Washington, D. C., but that she did not collect dues from ISHBEL LEE.

Out of Bondage

Page 196

"By the middle of September, MARY PRICE returned from Mexico and after some persuasion agreed to go on to Washington in the hope that she could obtain a position in the United States Government. Unfortunately she had no luck. Although she seemed on the verge of getting a job in the Office of Strategic Services, she was turned down at the last minute. Later, through DUNCAN LEE, we found that the real reason for her turndown was 'past Communist associations.'"

Page 264

"...I remembered how, a few months before, we had asked DUNCAN to find out why MARY PRICE had been turned down in the fall of 1943; he had promptly produced the information that the reason was because she had been associating with known Communists. When we discovered he had access to the security files, we had asked him to bring us information that might be of value. Thereupon, he had given me a slip of paper on which he had written down the names of people that the O.S.S. considered dangerous risks, divided into three categories-- 'known Soviet agents', 'known Communists,' and 'Communist sympathizers.' In the first group were three names--none of whom I knew; in the second, was an active member of the PERLO group, and in the third MAURICE HALPERIN. We had quite promptly

alerted MAURICE and told him to be careful; the other, since he was more reckless, we had 'put on ice' and told to abstain from any activities for a six-month period. That had been some time before; yet, in spite of our forebodings, both of them were still holding their jobs."

Miss BENTLEY testified before the HCUA on August 10, 1948, that information obtained by her from LEE was valuable to the Russians. She stated that one type of information which LEE furnished was whether the O.S.S. had spotted any of "our people" who were working for O.S.S.

Miss BENTLEY testified that in the fall of 1943 MARY PRICE had applied to O.S.S. for a position there but was turned down. She stated that PRICE was given some routine excuse with no bad implications, but that DUNCAN LEE, when asked to check and find out the real reason, advised two or three months later that he had checked through O.S.S. files and determined that PRICE had been turned down because of past Communist affiliations and connections.

On April 24, 1951, Miss BENTLEY, during an interview with SAS LESTER O. GALLAHER and FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, stated that LEE had told her that the OSS had compiled a list of "Reds" (in OSS). She stated that the list had been divided into three categories which she believed were headed as follows:

- (1) Known Soviet Agents (It was her recollection that this list contained only three or four names, two of which she believed to be Jimenez. She recalled that a third name appeared to her to be Spanish.)
- (2) Known Communist Party Members (This list contained at least six or more names, among which she said appeared the name of DONALD WHEELER.) WHEELER was another of her Soviet espionage contacts.
- (3) Known Communist Sympathizers (She advised that she recalled specifically that the name of MAURICE HALPERIN had appeared on this list.) It is noted that HALPERIN was also one of her Soviet espionage contacts.

In developing the background concerning the circumstances under which LEE furnished her with the above-mentioned list, Miss BENTLEY stated that in the fall of 1943, MARY PRICE had endeavored to obtain

a job at OSS, but the position had failed to materialize. She said that she later asked LEE to see if he could find out why MARY PRICE was turned down for the position. She said LEE was able to determine that MARY PRICE had been turned down because of her past association with known Communists. Among those individuals with whom Miss PRICE had been associated and which association was believed questionable was VIRGINIA PAYNE, a girl from Tennessee, and a British girl whose first name Miss BENTLEY believed was ELIZABETH, last name unrecalled. She stated that MARY PRICE had resided with these girls on Olive Avenue in Washington, D. C. She further identified the British girl as having been married to a doctor and separated from him at the time she lived with MARY PRICE. She stated that LEE had determined from the file on MARY PRICE that VIRGINIA PAYNE had been investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Miss BENTLEY stated that as a result of this incident she and her principals became aware of the fact that LEE had access to security files of OSS, and she told him to keep his eyes open for any information appearing therein which might be of interest to them.

She stated that some months later, she believed in the spring of 1944, during a conversation with LEE he mentioned he had "stumbled" over a file in which were listed known "Reds" in OSS and he asked her if she was interested in this list. She stated that after her reply in the affirmative, LEE subsequently copied the list and brought it to her. She advised that this was one of the few instances in which LEE had furnished her with written information. She stated she furnished this written list to her principal "BILL". She stated that LEE was her sole source of information pertaining to the above-mentioned list. She further stated that the fact that DONALD WHEELER's name appeared on the above list was the basis for placing him "on ice" for awhile. She said WHEELER had been furnishing "ditto" material in such voluminous quantities that Russians sent word back asking, "DONALD" to please restrain himself.

Miss BENTLEY was interviewed at the New York Office on March 7, 1952, by SA LESTER O. GALLAHER. During the course of this interview a number of matters were discussed with her. She was asked if she could furnish further details regarding the list of names, which she had previously stated she received from LEE, of individuals suspected of Communist or Communist front activities who were employed by OSS. At that time she stated she was unable to recall any of these names other than WHEELER and HALPERIN, who were at that time furnishing her with information. She did recall, however, that the first two or three names contained on the list were Spanish. She stated that she did not retain a written list after she furnished this information to her Soviet principals and it was because of this that she was unable to recall any of the other names appearing on the list.

"Then there was DUNCAN LEE, my prime headache for the last several months, who was exceedingly nervous and jumpy. Indeed, by that time his hush-hush work at the O.S.S. had made him so hypercautious that he had taken to crawling around the floor of his apartment on hands and knees examining the telephone wires to see if they had been tampered with. I remember one evening he had begged me to see him, and when I met him he was white and trembling and the sweat stood out on his forehead.

"'What's the matter, DUNCAN?' I said.

"He peered around him nervously, as if he thought someone was listening; then he told me the situation. It seemed he had found out that his boss, General DONOVAN, had conceived the idea of exchanging intelligence missions with the Russians; the N.K.V.D. was to send about ten or twelve men to this country and the O.S.S. would ship an equal number over there. The matter had been threshed out in a top-policy meeting of the United States government; most of the people present had not opposed the suggestion, with the exception of Admiral LEAHY of the Navy, who had said flatly 'no.' A representative of President ROOSEVELT had suggested tentatively that perhaps it wasn't such a good idea during an election year; however, if the N.K.V.D. came in plain clothes and without any fanfare, the idea might work out. J. EDGAR HOOVER, alone, sat back and looked amused, and his words, as DUNCAN reported them, have stuck in my mind.

"'I don't see what difference it makes,' HOOVER said 'Ever since the Amtorg Trading Corporation moved into this country, the N.K.V.D. have been wandering around the United States. It probably would make it a lot simpler for us if they came already labeled.'

"DUNCAN wasn't sure whether the exchange would go through, but the mere idea of it upset him. He had turned to me desperately.

"'I'm finished,' he said. 'They'll come to call on me, and when I let them in, they'll shake my hand and say, "Well done, comrade".'"

"The situation was so ludicrous that I almost laughed; then I realized he was serious about it. What will I do with him, I wondered; he's too panicky to tell the truth to, and surely the Russians will fight to the death to keep such a valuable contact."

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY stated that LEE impressed her as being a rather weak individual, who was impressed with being a descendant of General LEE, and most of the time she saw him, he was nervous and emotionally upset. She stated that he was extremely apprehensive about the possibility of being under FBI surveillance and he explained to her that he was in a really vulnerable position as the FBI and OSS, at that time, according to him, were both seeking to have control of all United States intelligence activities, and in furtherance of their claim the FBI would very much like to place OSS personnel in an embarrassing position. Miss BENTLEY stated that LEE mentioned many times that he did not like the work that he was engaged in; that is, the collection of information for her, and he appeared to be troubled with a severe conflict of ideas. She said she subsequently learned from "JACK" who was one of her Soviet contacts that DUNCAN LEE had indicated to the person who took over after she ceased her activities that he did not desire to continue his contacts with the Russian espionage setup any further. She stated that she learned at that time that LEE at that time went to China and she was unable to state whether he continued his contacts with the Russians after that.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY said that she related to "JACK" (December, 1944) the incident occurring some months previously, when DUNCAN LEE, through his intimate association with General WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, in OSS, had learned of a proposal of General DONOVAN to have some NKVD representatives come to the United States in exchange for an OSS mission to Russia. She said that she told JACK that this proposal was looked upon unfavorably by President ROOSEVELT and Fleet Admiral LEAHY, and that, according to Major LEE, Director J. EDGAR HOOVER of the FBI, was supposed to have remarked that it would not make too much difference if the NKVD group did come over because they were here already and had been since the establishment of Amtorg. She stated that she described to JACK how excited and frightened Major LEE was about the prospect of NKVD mission coming to the United States as LEE had visions of this group visiting him at his home and thanking him for his co-operation. She stated that JACK

remarked that this incident was a good example of why the Russians strongly desired that their American contacts not know the real identity of the persons with whom they were dealing.

Miss BENTLEY in testimony before the HCUA on August 10, 1948, reiterated that LEE had discussed with her a meeting at which it was proposed that the United States exchange ten, eleven, or twelve NKVD agents with the Soviet Union. She stated that she was not certain of the number to be exchanged. Concerning this exchange, Miss BENTLEY said that she thought it was in the spring of 1944 that she met LEE one evening in a drug store in Washington, D. C. She testified that at this meeting LEE was very much upset because he had found out that General DONOVAN was interested in making this exchange of NKVD agents with OSS men. Miss BENTLEY testified that LEE had told her that this matter had been brought up at what she called a meeting of the top command of the country. She stated that those present were Admiral LEAHY of the Navy, Mr. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and, she thought, a representative of President ROOSEVELT, together with other top people.

Miss BENTLEY testified that LEE described this meeting in detail to her going into such things as the fact that Admiral LEAHY was definitely against such an exchange.

Miss BENTLEY was interviewed at the New York Office on March 7, 1952, by SA LESTER O. GALLAHER with reference to the high level meeting held in Washington, D. C., during which a proposed exchange of NKVD and OSS men was discussed, she emphasized that she had stated that this exchange was merely discussed at the high level meeting and not that it had been disapproved. She stated that she had no knowledge of the reason for the failure of this plan, but heard later, possibly from J. JULIUS JOSEPH, another of her espionage contacts, that nothing materialized concerning this matter.

With regard to whether this was to be an exchange of men rather than agents, she said that she did not attempt to distinguish the technical terminology of missions and agents, but merely meant that there was to be some exchange of personnel for some purpose or another. She emphasized that this was the way she had testified about the matter in the past. She said that subsequent to the receipt of this information from LEE she had also obtained some information concerning the exchange of OSS and NKVD agents from J. JULIUS JOSEPH.

In her book, "Out of Bondage," on page 258 Miss BENTLEY stated that after meeting a Soviet contact known to her as "AL" (ANATOLI BOROSOVICH GROMOV, then First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C.) in December, 1944, she realized that the International Communist movement was in the hands of the wrong people, and that she and her contacts were in a highly dangerous spot. She stated in the book that there was only one thing to do and that was to get as many people as she could out of the clutches of the Russians and then ease herself out.

On page 259 of her book, she mentions DUNCAN LEE in this connection, stating that he was her prime headache for the preceding several months and that he was exceedingly nervous and jumpy. Also concerning this subject matter on page 261 she wrote:

Out of Bondage
Page 261

"... I decided on strategy: I would slant the information I had on them to such a degree that they would look like poor risks to the Russian Secret Police, who perhaps would drop them. This path I followed.

"Where they were nervous and high-strung, as in the case of DUNCAN LEE, I reported them on the verge of cracking up; ..."

Out of Bondage
Page 263

"Laden with three suitcases of presents, I went down to Washington the week before Christmas; I was to deliver them to my contacts, collect their information, then meet JACK for breakfast the third morning at the Hotel Statler. Everything went very well; all the people were pleased with their presents and gay with the holiday spirit. DUNCAN LEE, who with his O.S.S. training fancied himself somewhat of a sleuth, eyed his leather writing case and his wife's red-leather compact thoughtfully; then he uttered a whoop of joy.

"I've discovered where you work," he said happily. "Last year you also gave us leather goods; you must be in the wholesale leather business."

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY advised that she had two meetings with JACK in Washington, D. C., in December prior to Christmas, one being at the Roger Smith Hotel and the other a breakfast meeting at the new Hotel Statler.

In her statement of November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY stated that during December, 1944, she purchased a considerable number of Christmas gifts for her Washington contacts, and recalled that on one trip to Washington from New York she had three suitcases full of Christmas presents. She estimated that her purchases for Christmas presents amounted to four or five hundred dollars, reimbursement for which was made by JACK, who seemed to consider the expenditure very mild.

On the matter of giving Christmas gifts to these people, she stated she would purchase a present for each member of a particular contact's family and recalled that among the persons who received gifts purchased by her on JACK's instructions were Major DUNCAN LEE and his wife.

On April 24, 1951, Miss BENTLEY during an interview by SAS LESTER O. GALLAHER and FRANCIS W. ZANGLE stated that after her contacts with LEE at his residence on Dent Place in Washington, D.C., he later purchased a home and she recalled she had visited him at this house on about three occasions. She recalled that on one of the occasions when she contacted LEE at his second residence (probably 1522 31st Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.), she brought Christmas gifts to DUNCAN and ISHBEL LEE.

With regard to the nature of these gifts, she stated she believed she had given LEE on one occasion a leather writing case and at another time a wallet. She also recalled giving Mrs. LEE a red-leather compact. She stated that because of the fact that several or all of the various gifts she gave the LEES were made of leather, LEE, who fancied himself as being a detective, told her that he had discovered the nature of her business. She stated he told her that he believed she was in the wholesale leather business.

On March 7, 1952, while being interviewed by SA LESTER O. GALLAHER in the New York Office of the FBI, Miss BENTLEY discussed portions of her book, "Out of Bondage," and stated that she had written that LEE had fancied himself as a detective and when she made the LEE family Christmas gifts of leather goods, LEE grew quite excited and said that he had discovered her occupation. She stated, however, that she had never indicated to LEE what her occupation was and that LEE's statement was purely conjecture on his part.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

NEW HAVEN DIVISION:

AT NEW HAVEN:

Will question ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY as to whether in addition to personally collecting Communist Party dues from DUNCAN LEE, MARY PRICE also for a time had collected these dues from LEE as Miss BENTLEY's intermediary.

NEW YORK DIVISION:

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK:

Will attempt to ascertain DUNCAN CHAPLIN LEE's current residence as suggested in Washington Field letter of May 13, 1954.

LOS ANGELES and SAN FRANCISCO DIVISIONS:

(INFORMATION)

Information copies are being furnished these divisions in accordance with Bureau instructions.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

Will maintain contact with the State Department to obtain the results of LEE's negotiations in connection with his attempt to secure his wife's re-entry into the United States or his own return to Bermuda.

REFERENCE: Report of SA THOMAS A. MENDENHALL dated April 27, 1954, in captioned case.

New York letter to Washington Field in captioned matter dated December 16, 1953.

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-364413)

SAC, WFO (100-20518)

DUNCAN CHAPLIN LEE, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

There is transmitted herewith the report of SA THOMAS A. MENDENHALL dated JUL 7, 1954 in the above captioned matter. In connection with the attached report which compares BENTLEY's book, "Out of Bondage," with previous statements made by her concerning DUNCAN LEE, it is desired to point out the following.

On page 182 of her book Miss BENTLEY stated that during the fall of 1942 MARY PRICE was her intermediary with LEE, bringing him Communist literature and collecting his Party dues. She also wrote that PRICE brought him instructions from "us" (her and GOLOS), and collected his information.

While Miss BENTLEY in her statement of 11/30/45 advised that MARY PRICE was at first delegated to handle DUNCAN LEE, she did not specifically state that MARY PRICE brought him Communist literature and collected his Party dues. On the other hand on 8/10/48 she testified before the HCUA that she herself brought LEE Communist Party literature and collected his Party dues.

On page 182 of her book Miss BENTLEY wrote that when LEE first came to Washington with OSS in 1942 she considered contacting him but MARY PRICE vetoed the suggestion, saying that LEE was so high strung and nervous that the sight of a stranger would send him into a state of panic.

The files of WFO do not reflect BENTLEY having previously advised that MARY PRICE at first vetoed the suggestion that Miss BENTLEY take over DUNCAN LEE from her.

TAM:dgt

- 1 - Bufile 134-435
- 2 - New York (100-96630)
(1-65-14603) (RM)
- 2 - New Haven (65-1480) (RM)
- 1 - Los Angeles (65-5241) (RM)(Info)
- 1 - San Francisco (65-4353)(RM)Info)

134-435

JUL 20 1954

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The files of WFO do not reflect that Miss BENTLEY previous to the publication of her book, advised that LEE was unwilling to have her telephone him because he was convinced his phone might be tapped. She had not previously stated that LEE had sat quite close to her in the living room and almost whispered his information for fear the walls might have ears.

On page 259 of her book Miss BENTLEY states that LEE's hush-hush work at the CSC had made him so hypercautious that he had taken to crawling around the floor of his apartment on his hands and knees examining the telephone wires to see if they had been tampered with. The files of WFO do not indicate that Miss BENTLEY had previously furnished this information.

There is no information in the files of WFO indicating that BENTLEY mentioned previous to her book her desire after meeting GROMOV in December, 1944, to release her contacts from the Soviet espionage system, and specifically that she reported LEE to her Soviet contact as being on the verge of cracking up.

On Page 260 of her book Miss BENTLEY in discussing an exchange of an OSS mission to Russia for an NKVD mission to this country stated that: "A representative of President ROOSEVELT had suggested tentatively that perhaps it wasn't such a good idea during an election year; however, if the NKVD came in plain clothes and without any fanfare, the idea might work out."

It is also noted that in her book on page 260 Miss BENTLEY quotes the Director slightly differently than in her statement of 11/30/45.

The report of SA JOHN B. HONEYCUTT dated 1/14/54 at New Orleans, Louisiana, in the case on LAUCHLIN CURRIE, was., ESPIONAGE - R, reflects on page 2 that Miss BENTLEY stated that the original statements furnished to the Bureau concerning her activities and the activities of the espionage apparatus contained all of the essential facts regarding these activities. She pointed out that her book was written in such a manner as to give more human interest and reader appeal and to avoid libel suits in the future.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON FIELD

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 7/27/54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/20/54	REPORT MADE BY JOHN P. PRICE
TITLE BURCAN CHAPLIN LEE, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

MARY PRICE collected CP dues from LEE as ELIZABETH BENTLEY intermediary.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

ELIZABETH F. BENTLEY advised that MARY PRICE met the subject in New York in 1942. The subject went to Washington, D.C. in May 1942 at which time he stayed with MARY PRICE. MARY PRICE served as the subject's contact from 1942-1943 during which time she collected the subject's CP dues as Miss BENTLEY's intermediary. During this period MARY PRICE also took LEE CP literature.

-RUC-

DECLASSIFIED BY **4913** **3/10/78**
AP/L

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
		134 - 495 - 1
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 6 - Bureau (100-36413) 1 - Washington Field (100-20518) 1 - New Haven (65-1480)		NOT RECORDED 195 AUG 13 1954
58 AUG 18 1954		INITIALS OF ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

IN 65-1180

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Report of SA THOMAS A. NEWENHALL dated 7/7/54 at Washington, D.C.
Washington Field letter to Director dated 7/7/54.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)
FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 8/19/54

WORLD TOURISTS INC.
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ReBuairtel 10/26/53, in case entitled "LARRY DEXTER WHITE,
ESPIONAGE - R".

Re airtel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure there is no other information (contained in the book) which expands upon or differs with data she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to the appropriate individual files.

References pertaining to World Tourists are found in the book on pages 113-117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 127, 128, 133, 136, 138, 142, 154, 163, 188, 201, 209, 210, 223, 224, 228, 230, 235, 244, 272, and 276.

References pertaining to U.S. Shipping and Service Corp., which organization was closely affiliated with World Tourists, are found in the book on pages 130, 131, 133, 153, 161, 162, 163, 209, 268, 269, 290, 291, 293 and 306. In addition, information having to do with the formation of the organization which later became known as U.S. Shipping and Service Corp., is found beginning at page 123.

A review of the information on both corporations found in the book is for the most part, in substance, similar to that furnished by Miss BENTLEY in her signed statement of November 30, 1945 (NY 65-14603-204). Inasmuch as U.S. Shipping and Service Corp. is now defunct and World Tourists is virtually defunct, particularly as it was organized and operated during the period of BENTLEY'S association with it, no dissemination of clippings from the book is being made to the World Tourist case file.

However, a copy of instant letter is being designated for the World Tourist file and attention is directed to the fact that a copy of "Out of Bondage" is maintained in the NYO library should further review of the above mentioned references become desirable in the future.

- 1 - Bureau (97-3030) (WORLD TOURISTS)
- 1 - Bureau (65-56402) (GREGORY CASE)
- 1 - New York (97-13) (WORLD TOURISTS)
- 1 - New York (134-182)

RECORDED - 32

134-435-118

LOG:CMH

ESP. SEC.

TO: Director, FBI (100-334271)
FROM: SAC, New York (100-96400)
SUBJECT: MIKHAIL CHALIAPIN
ESPIONAGE - R

Date 8/30/54

RebuAirtel dated 10/26/53, in case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE, ESPIONAGE-R".

Referenced Air-tel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book "Out of Bondage" be reviewed to insure there is no other information (contained in the book) which expands upon or differs with data she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book is channelized to appropriate individual files.

Information appearing in the book concerning the above individual on pages 145-148, 231 as JOHN, whom she has identified, in substance, the same as that appearing in ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S signed statement dated November 30, 1945, (from a photo (as CHALIAPI (65-14603 serial 264)).

~~xx65-14603~~

1-Bufile 100-435

1 - NY 65-14603

1 - NY 134-182

1 - NY 65-14780

134-435-✓
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LOF:NER/cca

50 SEP 8 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)
FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 8/31/54

Rebuaair-tel 10/26/53 in case entitled, "HARRY DEXTER WHITE; ESPIONAGE - R," and New York teletype captioned as above 11/10/53.

Rebuaair-tel instructed that ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY'S book, "Out of Bondage," be reviewed to insure there was no other information in the book which expanded upon or differed with data she had furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to the appropriate case files.

In carrying out the Bureau's instructions in this matter, information appearing in the book concerning various individuals mentioned was compared with information furnished by Miss BENTLEY in her signed statement dated 11/30/45.

If it was found that no substantial variations existed between material in the book and the statement, a letter reflecting page references in the book on the individual subject was directed to the New York and Bureau files on the individual and on ELIZABETH BENTLEY. If other offices were found to be origin in these cases, copies were sent, of course, to the offices of origin. These letters reflected that a comparison of the information in the book and her statement failed to reflect any material variation.

In those instances where the comparison of information reflected a variance or an enlargement of information in the signed statement, clippings of those portions of the book containing the information in question were forwarded to the individual case files. The agents handling these individual cases were instructed to compare the material in the book with the total information furnished by Miss BENTLEY concerning the particular subjects. If differences were found, then leads were to be set out to have Miss BENTLEY appropriately interviewed to clarify the information. As the Bureau has undoubtedly observed, she has in some instances stated that she portrayed certain situations in the book in a manner somewhat at variance with the events as they occurred in order to add reader appeal and human interest. It is believed that for the most part, Miss BENTLEY'S explanations concerning differences appearing in the material in the book have been satisfactory.

Enc. (1)
1-Bufile 65-56402
1-NY 134-102

RECORDED 134-435-119

11 SEP 2 1954

Letter to Director
NY 65-14603

In each instance in which clippings were forwarded to case files as outlined above, copies of such clippings were retained and have been assembled in alphabetical order under the names of the individual subjects as carried in the title of their case file. One set of these clippings is being forwarded herewith and a second set is being retained by the New York Office in the file entitled, "NATPAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, was; ET AL; ESPIONAGE - R." It is to be pointed out that these clippings do not in every instance contain all references in the book pertaining to the individual mentioned, but only those which appear to be at variance or enlarge upon Miss BENTLEY'S signed statement. Memoranda which forwarded the clippings to the case files in the New York Office contained a complete listing of the references in the book on the individual.

In some few instances wherein the references were extremely numerous (such as on EARL BROWDER), clippings were not made. In those instances, memoranda were directed to the case files listing the references with the instruction that they be reviewed and compared with information previously furnished by BENTLEY on the subject, and that leads for clarification be set out if found necessary.

Also, in several other instances in which there were numerous references concerning an individual now deceased or departed from the United States (such as JACOB GOLOS and ANATOLE GROMOV), and perusal of the references failed to reflect any outstanding variations, letters were forwarded to the Bureau in instant case and individual case files containing the page references in the book. In those instances detailed analysis of the information did not appear justified at the present time. However, the letter called attention to the fact that a copy of "Out of Bondage" is available in the New York Office Library should a review of the references be necessary.

A similar procedure was followed with regard to certain organizations mentioned in the book which are now defunct or the material included was collateral to BENTLEY'S knowledge of various individuals (for example, the American League Against War and Fascism or the Institute of Pacific Relations). Copies of a letter were directed to the case files in the event it should become desirable to review this information in the future or to question BENTLEY concerning individuals with whom she may have come in contact in those organizations.

Letter to Director
NY 65-14603

During the review of the book, it became apparent that Miss BENTLEY had used fictitious names for several individuals mentioned therein. Leads were set out to interview Miss BENTLEY to obtain the correct name. In one or two instances she stated she had used fictitious designations because she was unable to recall the correct name. In several instances, however, she furnished the correct name and appropriate channelization of this information has been made to case files.

In reviewing the book it was found necessary to prepare an index of "Out of Bondage," copies of which have been made available to the Bureau, New York, New Orleans, and Washington Field.

An index of the report containing BENTLEY'S signed statement was also prepared and forwarded as amended pages to the report to the Bureau and to offices having copies of this report.

Inasmuch as there appears to be no further action necessary in this matter, this case is being closed.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 9/1/54

G. I. R. -9

INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rebuar-tel 10/46/53 in case entitled, "HARRY DEXTER WHITE; ESPIONAGE - R."

Rebuar-tel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book, "Out of Bondage," be reviewed to insure that there is no other information in the book which expands or differs with data she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to the appropriate case file.

References pertinent to the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS are contained in "Out of Bondage" on pages 182, 193-195, 203, 212, and 258.

Inasmuch as these references contained little information of substantive value concerning the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS, but rather, ^{was} collateral to information concerning various individuals with whom BENTLEY was in contact, no dissemination of clippings from the book is being made to the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS case file. Copies of this letter are being directed to the INSTITUTE OF PACIFIC RELATIONS case file to direct attention to references concerning the organization contained in the book.

A copy of "Out of Bondage" is maintained in the New York Office Library where the references may be examined in detail should this become desirable in the future.

2-Bureau (IPR)
1-Bufile 65-56402
1-NY 100-17808 (IPR)

RECORDED - 3

134-435-120

10 SEP 3 1954

EX-120

LOG:ECS

ESP SEC

ESP SEC

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 9/1/54

G.I.R.-9

AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rebuar-tel 10/26/53 in case entitled "HARRY DEXTER WHITE; ESPIONAGE - R."

Rebuar-tel instructed that ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S book, "Out of Bondage," be reviewed to insure that there is no other information contained in the book which expands upon or differs with data she has furnished the Bureau, and that all pertinent data in the book be channelized to appropriate case files.

References pertinent to the AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM are contained in the book on pages 6-11, 16-18, 21, 25, 35, 36, 42, 45, and 78.

Inasmuch as this organization has long since been defunct and the information contained in the book appears to be of little substantive value, no dissemination of excerpts from the book is being made to the case file. A copy of this letter is being directed to the case file in the New York Office for the purpose of recording the references to the organization in the book and Miss BENTLEY'S association with it.

A copy of "Out of Bondage" is maintained in the New York Office Library should detailed review of the references become desirable in the future.

2-Bufile (AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM)
1-Bufile 65-56402
1-NY 100-113265 (AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM)

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RECORDED - 71

134-435121

LOG:ECS

EXP. SEC.

INT. SEC.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : W. A. Branigan
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION

DATE: September 16, 1954

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. _____
Clerk _____

Pursuant to a request from Edward
Nicholsen on August 30, 1954, a search was made
of the Bureau's files for existing photographs
of Elizabeth Bentley. Three different photo-
graphs were prepared and were delivered to
Nicholsen and this was confirmed by our memoran-
dum of September 1, 1954, to the Department in
the case entitled, "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster."
One copy of each of these three photographs and
the negatives are attached hereto as of possible
future value.

Attachment

RJJ:sam

EX-116
EX-116-11
INDEXED - 69

134-435-122

ENCLOSURE

18726

Elizabeth Bentley. Photograph ut Nov. 1945.

Elizabeth Bentley
Photo taken from MacCalls Magazine, 1951)



Elizabeth Bentley.
(Photograph in MacCall's Magazine, 1951)

